

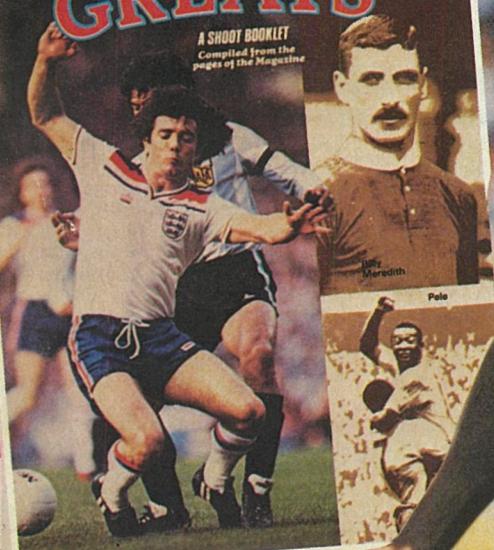
ENGLAND v NORWAY • SWEDEN v SCOTLAND • REP. of IRELAND v HOLLAND

SHOOT!

**FREE
INSIDE**

**ALL-TIME
GREATS**

A SHOOT BOOKLET
Compiled from the
pages of the Magazine



**Colour covers
for an
EXCITING
BOOKLET**

13th SEPTEMBER, 1980

22p



Steve Coppell and
Archie Gemmill
seek success for
England and
Scotland in their
World Cup
qualifying games.

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SHOOT! VIEW!

THE Players' Union are right to call for an urgent summit meeting to talk about the increase of yellow card bookings.

Bookings are now four times higher than they were ten years ago, with yellow cards waved at most matches.

Yet most players would agree that play is no dirtier today than it was at the start of the 70's.

Indeed, more clubs are responsible enough to fine their players for getting into trouble today than they did at the time of the Mexico World Cup.

The issue has raised its ugly head again this season. It became a public debate when Blackpool referee Ken Walmsley sent-off Newcastle midfield player Steve Carney in a League match at Hillsborough against Sheffield Wednesday.

He had been shown the yellow card for an innocuous foul, and when the referee realised the player had been booked earlier, he was sent-off.

The referee had no option but to apply the rules. Now, the soccer authorities must act to prevent it happening again.

Sendings-off should be only for dangerous play and bad fouls.

Even Walmsley admitted: "I don't think it right that a player should be sent-off merely for two cautionable offences other than dangerous play."

The F.A.'s Rules and Regulations Committee would be wise to give the problem priority before we see a repeat of the crowd riot which followed the Hillsborough incident.

Silence is golden

The reputation of the English supporter in Europe has never been worse. Hot on the heels of the Battle of Turin during the England/Belgium game came the news that several Liverpool fans had been arrested during a pre-season friendly in West Germany.

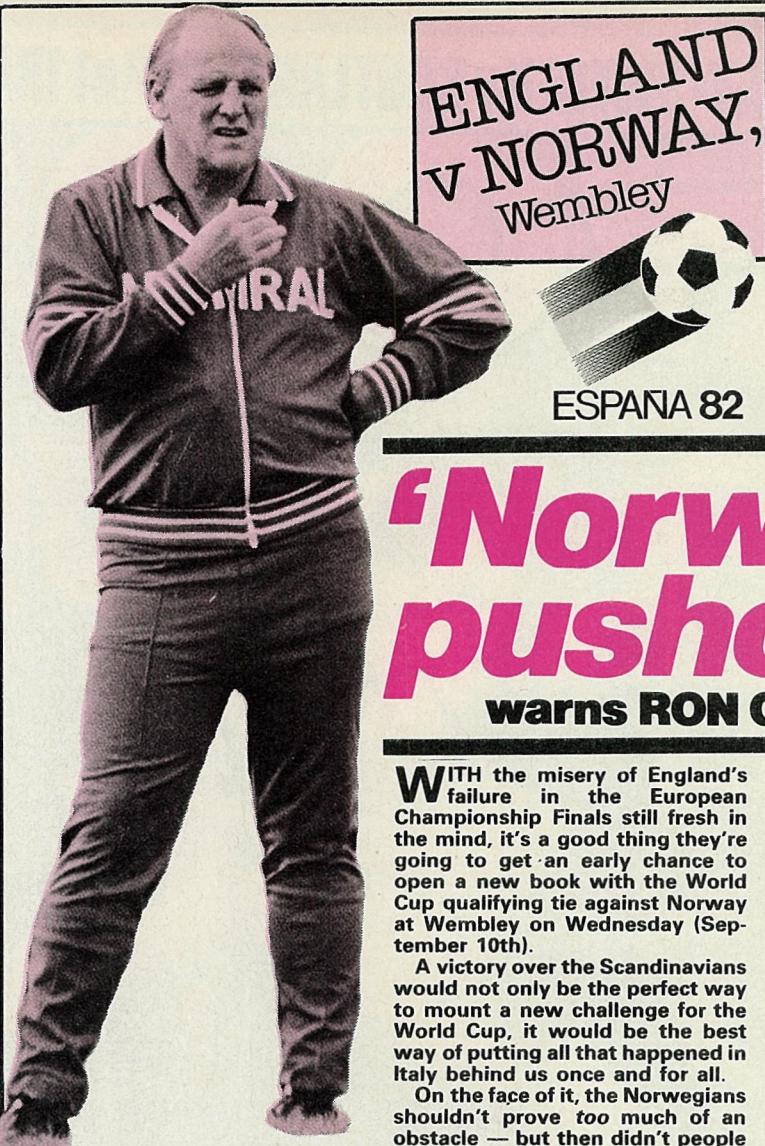
The English image abroad cannot be repaired overnight, but the Wembley faithful at next Wednesday's World Cup qualifier against Norway could do much in just a few minutes.

All they need to do is to sing God Save The Queen instead of some football song, and observe silence during the Norwegian national anthem.

Sounds easy, doesn't it? Yet sadly a minority of so-called supporters at Wembley seem unable to be respectful at such times.

On the field, Ron Greenwood's team are a good advert for English football. Whatever the shortcomings, they don't resort to cynical fouls and always try to set the right example.

It would be nice to think the Wembley fans could follow suit. Many do... but it's those who don't who attract the bad publicity.



ENGLAND
v NORWAY,
Wembley



'Norway no pushovers'

warns RON GREENWOOD

WITH the misery of England's failure in the European Championship Finals still fresh in the mind, it's a good thing they're going to get an early chance to open a new book with the World Cup qualifying tie against Norway at Wembley on Wednesday (September 10th).

A victory over the Scandinavians would not only be the perfect way to mount a new challenge for the World Cup, it would be the best way of putting all that happened in Italy behind us once and for all.

On the face of it, the Norwegians shouldn't prove too much of an obstacle — but then didn't people

say that about Poland back in 1974, and Belgium earlier this summer?

No match can be taken lightly these days, and while Ron Greenwood acknowledges that England OUGHT to be one of the two qualifiers from a group comprising England, Rumania, Hungary, Switzerland and Norway, he has learned not to take anything for granted.

"I have a high regard for Norwegian football and they'll be very keen to show the world that they can hold their own with the best.

"The Norwegians regard this as the biggest match of the group, and as a matter of fact we

accepted their request to play at Wembley first, although we really wanted to play in Norway.

"They make the point that they have been playing all summer and interest in football in their country is at its peak at the moment. As a matter of fact their national team usually gets its best results around this time of the year, so we'll have to be on our guard.

"That might not be a bad thing actually, and we should be O.K. but Norway do have some good players and they'll certainly give us a good test."

The England manager has not forgotten how Norway went to

'We can qualify'

Norway boss

"We qualified for the Olympic Games. Unfortunately, Norway were one of the countries to boycott Moscow. This wasn't announced until the end of May and by that time the League fixtures had been re-arranged to accommodate a gap during the Olympics.

"Things couldn't be changed and since the end of July our players have had two games per week. Norway have played only one preparation match, against Finland which we won 6-1.

'Occasion'

"You must appreciate that for us, to play at Wembley is a truly big occasion.

"My main job will be to get my players in the right frame of mind. I don't want any of them thinking they have no right to be on the same pitch as England, because they certainly deserve it.

"I won't talk too much about England because I don't want to drain their feelings... to make them worried. Much depends on how the early minutes of the match go. If we settle down quickly we could cause a surprise.

"We shan't go to Wembley just



ANYONE who thinks Norway are in Group Four just to make up the numbers could be in for a big mistake. That's the message from the Norwegian manager Tor Fossen as his team prepares for what he calls "the biggest match of our lives" at Wembley.

Fossen is realistic enough to know the size of the task, but says: "England are obviously the big favourites. Hungary? Well, they've a great tradition. But their results since the last World Cup haven't been outstanding and they even lost at home to the USA.

"Rumania's record suggests they aren't amongst the greatest sides around, while our history against Switzerland is encouraging. We even beat them in the last World Cup qualifying section. So we have a chance of challenging for the second place for Spain in 1982."

Norway came within a whisker of beating Scotland at Hampden Park a year ago. Leading 2-1 with just minutes to go, the Scots scored two late goals to sneak home.

"Our strengths are the good understanding within the team, we're well organised, work hard, morale is high and we have one or



Kevin Keegan never reproduced his true form in the European Championship.

Hampden Park, very much as second favourites a couple of years ago, and led Scotland 2-1 with only ten minutes to go, only to give away a couple of goals and lose the European Championship tie.

"I haven't seen them lately, but I do have quite a good knowledge of Norwegian football. When I was with West Ham we always used to

PAST RESULTS ENGLAND v. NORWAY

YEAR	DATE	VENUE	E.	N.
1937	May 14	Oslo	6	0
1938	Nov 9	Newcastle	4	0
1949	May 18	Oslo	4	1
1966	June 29	Oslo	6	1

to defend. Our record this year is good, with victories over Bulgaria, Iceland and Finland. I hope for a continuation of the form we've shown so far."

Ron Greenwood won't underestimate Norway. Too often unfashionable teams have come to Wembley and caused England a lot of anxious moments.

After the disappointment of the European Championship, England's confidence will have taken a knock.

"England were unlucky in Italy," continues Fossen. "Teams have periods when they have no luck and England came into this category."

"I was perfectly situated for the offside decision against Belgium, when Tony Woodcock's goal was disallowed. Kenny Sansom was NOT offside in my view. In many ways that was the turning point of the tournament."

It may sound silly to suggest next week's clash with Norway will be a stiff test for England when you consider the records of the respective countries.

Under the present circumstances, though, it will certainly be that ... Greenwood and Fossen know this only too well.

go to Norway for our pre-season warm-up matches, so I know a lot of their players — and some of them are very good, make no mistake."

Greenwood is thinking in particular of men who have left Norway to make a name for themselves like midfielder Aas, now playing in West Germany with Bayern Munich, and Thoresen, now in Belgium.

"The Norwegians are the sort who like to try and play good football, and as always they'll be keen to reproduce their best at Wembley. It really is amazing how that stadium inspires all visiting teams."

The England manager is aware that the Norwegians believe they have a slight advantage in terms of the timing of the game.

"It's true we don't usually have an international match as early as this in a season, and some of our players will still be getting into the swing of a new season, whereas the Norwegians will have been playing consistently for much longer, but I don't think we will suffer too much."

"This is the sort of match we must win if we are to qualify for

the Finals in Spain, and our objective now is simple — we have to go out to win all our ties."

"It's true we did want to play as many of our away ties as possible first, and then have a run-in at Wembley, but you can't always get what you want in this game, and so we acceded to Norway's request."

Although he sees little point in looking back, the England manager is sure to have learned from the experience of Italy, and basically he sees the task of qualifying for Spain as similar to the one he faced in taking us to the European Championship Finals.

"The format is similar and although the opposition is different, we all know how to go about the job in hand. It's imperative that we get off to a good start by beating Norway."

"We then play Rumania in October and Switzerland in November, so it would be nice if we had six points at the end of those three matches. It would certainly ease the task ahead."

"Unfortunately when we got to Italy we didn't perform as well as we could and should have done, and people very quickly forgot the

impressive performances the team had given in reaching the Finals.

"Of course they expected better, we all did, but we weren't that far behind the best, and if we learned from the experience then nothing was lost."

"I think we have a very good, settled squad, and naturally while I'll be delighted to introduce anyone who proves he's worth a place, I'm sure I shall basically be looking to the players who've always done so well for England."

"People were quick to criticise lads like Kevin Keegan, Trevor Brooking and Steve Coppell when they didn't play at their best in Italy, but good players don't become bad ones over the space of three games, and it annoyed me that those people who did the most criticising were forgetting all the great games those players had played for England."

'Responsibility'

"Everyone is so critical of everything when things don't quite go according to plan. The one thing Italy taught me was just to get on with things in my own way and not take too much notice of others. Everyone wants to pick the team and they can all do a better job than me — but I'm the one with the responsibility, and I'll carry on picking the teams I think are the best suited to the job."

"It's like the start of this season, everyone seemed to be so pessimistic because of our performances in Italy, but really they should have been looking to the good things to say about the game, and starting the new season with optimism instead."

"Everyone is looking on the black side, but if we can get a couple of good results in the World Cup, I expect everything will be all sweetness and light again."



Norway (white strip) nearly pulled off a shock result in Scotland two years ago.

ENGLAND begin the long campaign for a place in Spain 1982 with matches this autumn against Norway, Rumania and Switzerland, and few players are sure of holding their places in the side all the way to Madrid.

One of the most likely to be there when the biggest ever World Cup kicks off in two years time is Liverpool's affable skipper Phil Thompson. At 26, he is at the peak of his career with a club that has sat at the top of English soccer for a decade.

Satisfaction

And he is also in the lucky position of deriving considerable satisfaction from playing a slightly different role for England than he does for Liverpool. In many ways Thompson, the Liverpool central defender, prefers being Thompson, the England sweeper-libero ... because it is the change of role that offers him the challenge.

After playing impeccably at the back, sweeping behind Dave Watson in the England defence, Thompson enjoyed being able to explain why the England challenge appeals.

"Until I played there for England I had never been in the position before. It gives me a very different game from the one I play at Liverpool where I cover Alan Hansen, mainly in the air for high balls, and where we always push up

Clean sweep for Phil



tight together as a back four.

"But I enjoyed it tremendously. I enjoyed the whole tournament. At top international level you need to have someone playing deeper because most of the other teams have really fast attackers. Speedmen like Rummenigge or Ceule-

mans. You can easily get caught flat."

"Playing there is a new challenge for me and I did enjoy it a lot. You can see more of it and play differently. I didn't play the true Continental libero game. That would have meant playing 20 yards deeper."

"I only played about five or ten yards behind Dave Watson. That gave the goalkeepers plenty of room. It is better for us not to play too deep like that because our keepers need the space. It could be that one of the reasons why the Continental keepers are said to be so poor on crosses is that when English sides play against them they create pressure in the space between the libero and the goalkeeper. There is not much room — so the keepers find it tough."

"Both our goalkeepers are very good at coming out and making clearances, so it is good to give them space. In our system I play behind Dave Watson, giving him room to attack the ball and forage after it into midfield if necessary."

"Mind you, I don't expect the boss to change things at Liverpool because of the way I play for England. People may criticise us for playing it flat and sometimes getting caught, but look at the number of goals we give away. It is a system that works for Liverpool. But the other system suits England."

FORGET all Scotland's results under Jock Stein — the first match that really matters is the World Cup qualifier against Sweden in Stockholm.

That's the message from Scotland's greatest post-War striker Denis Law as the Scots set out on their mission to reach a hat-trick of successive World Cup finals.

Apart from the Scots only Italy, Poland, Sweden and Holland have played their way into the last two finals through the qualifying rounds, and everyone North of the border is proud of that record and keen to preserve it, despite the disappointments that followed in West Germany and Argentina.

On the basis of their recent performances Scotland haven't much chance of going to Spain.

And yet Law, who will be following Scotland's progress during his work with the BBC radio commentary team, believes that all the results of the past couple of years count for nought.

"I'm sure Jock Stein has been experimenting with several players knowing that the only results that really matter are the ones in the World Cup and European Championship."

'Confident'

"We've done extremely well to qualify for the last two World Cups, and with two countries qualifying from the group this time, I'm confident that Scotland can make it a 1-2-3 for Spain."

"While accepting that no international match is easy these days I'm sure that when the draw was made Jock Stein was very happy about coming out in the same group as Sweden, Northern Ireland, Portugal and Israel."

"On paper Portugal will be the toughest opponents, and, of course, we've recent knowledge of them having been drawn together in the European Championship, but Sweden will be no pushovers."

"It's very important that we get a result in Stockholm, because if you lose your first match you seem to be facing an uphill battle the rest of the way."

The experienced Ronnie Hellström.



"The Swedes have some good players and they'll be particularly keen to get off to a winning start in front of their own supporters."

"I was talking to a Swedish journalist during the European Championship in Italy this summer, and he reckoned the national team was the poorest they'd had in years, but we've heard that before, and down the years Sweden have had a remarkably good record in major finals."

Denis is convinced that Jock Stein should, and will, revert to tried and trusted players for the

Manchester United defender Martin Buchan.



World Cup.

"In the past couple of years Stein has had to do without players like Andy Gray, Gordon McQueen, Joe Jordan, John Robertson and Kenny Burns probably more often than he's been able to play them and that must have hampered him a great deal."

One player Denis would particularly like to see in the dark blue

shirt of his country again is Manchester United's defender Martin Buchan.

"Martin is a magnificent player and it's a great shame he hasn't won more caps than he has. Unfortunately Gordon McQueen, his centre-back partner at Old Trafford, won't be fit for the Stockholm game, and that might count against Martin coming back. I understand Joe Jordan is also doubtful, so there could be a chance for Steve Archibald or Ian Wallace."

Denis believes that the first thing Stein has to do is get

SWEDEN V SCOTLAND,
Stockholm



ESPAÑA 82

'Bring back DENIS LAW'S message'

through to his players that the World Cup actually starts now and not in Spain.

"He has to impress on them that Sweden are likely to be a good side if not a great one, that they must avoid complacency at all costs, that it is imperative we get off to a good start, and that if we don't win the first game it's going to be quite a setback."

"Naturally we've all been

disappointed with recent results. But I still maintain those results were not as important as this one in Stockholm.

"If we'd had a great run of victories and then went to Sweden and got beaten everyone would soon forget the good days, because it's the major championships that count in football."

"Look at England. Ron Greenwood had a marvellous record,



Joe Craig heads Scotland's third goal the last time they met Sweden, in 1977.

ström with able understudies in the young Thomas Wernersson and Thomas Ravelli, there are few stars around.

Though Ralf Edström, now with Standard Liege, has lost some of his edge, he is still by far the best Swedish player around. No one else has his vision and skill. Sadly, he is often injured.

Hasse Borg of Eintracht Brunswick, is still a stalwart in defence and Thomas Sjöberg could do a job up front, though he often plays in midfield for Malmö.

Given time, three promising midfielders will certainly come good: Sten-Ove Ramberg (Hammarby), Stefan Larsson (Halmstad) and Peter Nilsson (Öster).

The trouble is that the World Cup is on top of us now and the room for mistakes is limited.

Sweden can't afford to lose any more home points, having already dropped one to Israel. With the current team one can't be too optimistic about that.

Sweden in decline

It may be of some comfort to Scotland, not without problems of their own, to know that Sweden are struggling to get a good side ready for next week's match.

The national side is in deep decline and has only won six of its last 25 matches. The wins have come against such 'giants' as Finland (twice), Norway, Luxembourg, Malaya and Singapore.

The simple truth is that with the exception of the goalkeeping position (where you can only field one anyway!) there is a terrible dearth of international-class players in the Swedish game right now. New team-manager Lars Arnesson, previous assistant to Georg Ericson, is not to be envied and cannot be blamed for the lack of talent available.

Stupidly enough, he was not

installed in office right after the 1978 World Cup, but only last winter and so far has had just five games in which to try and find his best formation.

Arnesson's task has not been made easier by the fact that three of the country's leading teams (Malmö, Göteborg and Halmstad) use an entirely different tactical concept (British) than the one he and the rest of the clubs prefer.

Players from these three teams are consequently having difficulties adapting to the schemes used in the national side. This situation has been with us for a few years and is to my mind somewhat responsible for the regress of the national side.

Arnesson has used 22 players in his five matches and, from keepers Jan Möller and Ronnie Hell-

FRANK SJOMAN

and won a string of matches at Wembley, but when the Finals in Italy came around England weren't good enough, and people very quickly got on the backs of the team and the manager.

"I did admire the way Greenwood stuck with players like Ray Wilkins, Steve Coppell and Emlyn Hughes even when they weren't playing particularly well for their clubs.

"People were shouting for them to be dropped, but he was loyal to them and they played better for their country than they did for their clubs.

with players like Willie Miller, Paul Hegarty, Strachan, Joe Jordan, Arthur Graham and Ian Wallace also in the squad.

"You'll notice there are plenty of Anglo-Scots in the side, and I'm glad to notice that the bias against players who moved South has deteriorated considerably."

Law remembers with dismay the events of West Germany and Argentina, but knows only too well how passionately and fervently the Scots pursue their World Cup ambitions.

"There was a lot of trouble before the team got to West Ger-

Buchan' ge to Scotland

"I hope Andy Gray manages to steer clear of injury and gets a few goals for Scotland, because the one thing we've really missed over the past few years has been a consistent goalscorer.

'Disappointing'

"Really only Kenny Dalglish has scored many goals for Scotland, and even he has had a lot of disappointing games for Scotland.

"The step between club and international football is only a short one, and yet it seems a mile wide for many players, a lot of whom never make it of course.

"Jock Stein tried players like Gordon Strachan, Peter Weir, Iain Munro, Willie Miller and Alex McLeish, but with all due respect to them I think they'll be lucky to make the squad right now.

"The side I would like to see Jock pick would be on the lines of Rough, Burley, Frankie Gray, Gemmill, McQueen or McLeish, Buchan or Burns, Dalglish, Souness, Andy Gray, Archibald and Robertson

many in 1974, but at least we did perform well on the pitch and I believe we became the first country ever to be eliminated from the finals without having been beaten.

"I thought then we would have learned from our mistakes when we got to Argentina, but if anything that was a bigger shambles, a terrible disgrace, and we really need to do well in Spain to erase the memory of those happenings in 1978 — hopefully starting in Sweden."



PAST RESULTS

SCOTLAND v. SWEDEN

YEAR	DATE	VENUE	S.	Sw.
1952	May 30	Stockholm	1	3
1953	May 6	Glasgow	1	2
1975	April 16	Gothenburg	1	1
1977	April 27	Glasgow	3	1

Results 1980: USSR (h) 1-5
Denmark (h) 0-1
Finland (a) 2-0
Israel WC (h) 1-1
Iceland (h) 1-1
Hungary (a) 0-2

THE Republic have led Group Two of the World Cup qualifying group for six months. With three home games coming up, they should know what their chances of qualifying are by Christmas.

A lot has happened in Irish football since Eire's first game against Cyprus last March. Following that historic 3-2 win in Nicosia — Eire's first competitive away success in 13 years — they have had two managerial changes and star midfielder Liam Brady has changed clubs.

After Johnny Giles' shock resignation, his assistant Alan Kelly was in charge when Eire beat Switzerland in May. However, when World Champions Argentina

won 1-0 at Lansdowne Road later in the month, Eoin Hand was caretaker manager.

Hand has since been given the seal of approval by the F.A.I. and he shocked the Irish football fans by resigning as player manager of League Champions Limerick United.

However, he has not been able to arrange a suitable warm-up game and his only opportunity of getting the players together was in Paddy Mulligan's testimonial, when ten Eire internationals, with Pat Jennings in goal, lost 3-2 to Nottingham Forest.

Hand's first task when appointed boss was to fly to Italy to check on Belgium and Holland

to Arsenal's busy programme he was unavailable for the games against Switzerland and Argentina.

Arsenal refused to release Brady to guest for Shamrock Rovers against Southampton in July, and despite promises to the contrary Chippy didn't make it to Dublin for Mulligan's testimonial last month following his transfer to Juventus. There was no way that he would be released from Villa Perose, where his new club were in "pre-season isolation".

The task ahead of the Irish is a daunting one and with such a small squad of top class players available manager Hand does not have many alternatives, particularly in the problem area up front.

THE future of Dutch football does not look bright. Optimism at the time of the World Cup draw has been replaced by pessimism, with serious doubts about the national team.

It will be extremely difficult for Holland to qualify for Spain. The era of great players is over. Johan Cruyff, Wim van Hanegem, Johan Neeskens, Ruud Krol ... all were vital during the glory of the 70's.

Now, youngsters have to take over. Sadly, newcomers like Huub Stevens, Simon Tahamata and Kees Kist don't seem able to lead the team to victories. They are hard-working players, but the team lacks the personalities to guide it during a match. With Krol gone, who can lead the team?

Surprised

Holland were a bitter disappointment during the European Championship, although few people in Holland were surprised.

Manager Jan Zwartkruis criticised his players after the Italy fiasco for not sticking to their duties. Players disagreed with tactical plans and interest in the national side has been low. It seems like Holland is back where it was before the success began.

Meanwhile, Zwartkruis has been looking for new faces to join the squad. He's travelled around Holland, Belgium (where many Dutch stars play) searching for candidates. So far, no new personalities have been found.

It was many years before Hol-

Dutch problems mount up

land were able to compete at the highest level in international football. It began in 1974 and lasted until 1978.

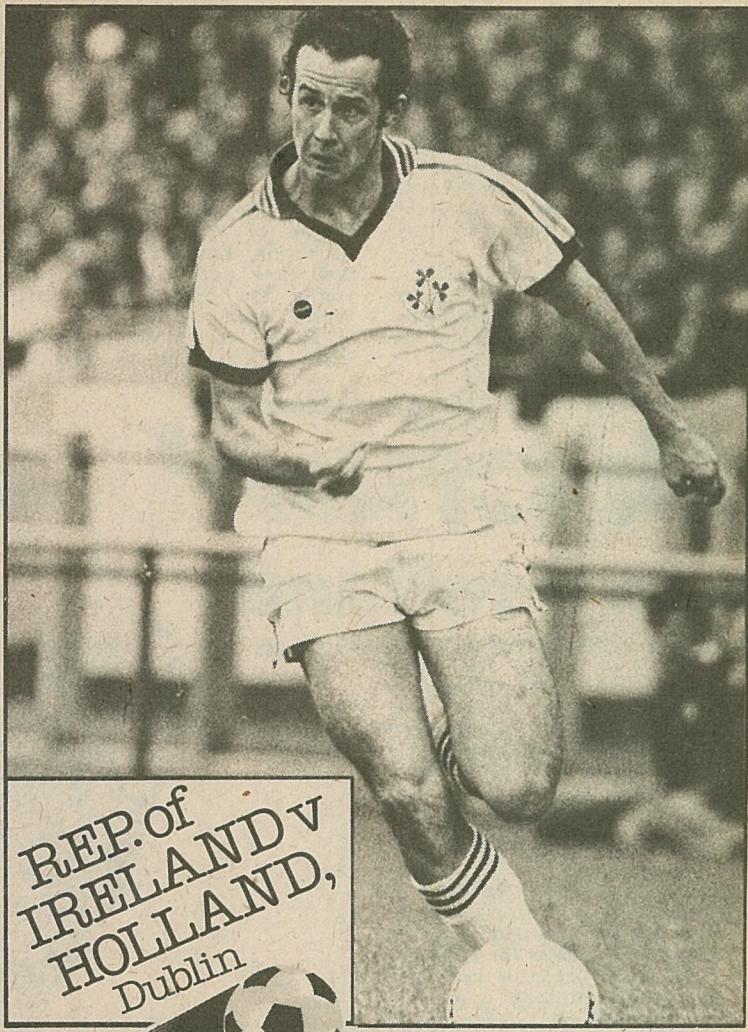


Holland disappointed in this year's European Championship Finals.

in the European Championship Finals. "Holland were not as good as in recent years, but they are still a world class team. But from what I was told in Italy I expect that there will be several changes in the side we play next week," said Hand.

The Eire boss is naturally hoping that Liam Brady will be free to play in Dublin. Brady apparently has a clause in his contract to allow him to play for his country. But he has been a big disappointment to his Irish fans of late (through no fault of his own) and he has yet to lead out the men in green in his home town since being appointed captain back in February.

Liam skippered the side at Wembley and in Cyprus, but owing



ESPAÑA 82

Since then, it has been a decreasing line. Before he left for Vancouver, Ruud Krol said: "We have to make a choice. Select a young squad and start building all over again or carry on in hope . . ."

Finding young players sounds easier than it really is. The would-be Krols and Cruyffs simply aren't around.

Clubs don't co-operate with Zwartkruis and several players refuse to play for their country.

The manager is expected to build a team with less than a handful of friendly games each year and virtually no time together before the big matches. People believed this was the way the Dutch prepared themselves the best; results in Italy disproved this.

The Republic are regarded as dangerous outsiders in Holland. Two countries qualify and if you discount Cyprus, that leaves Holland, Ireland, France and Belgium.

Belgium are the best team on form, as they showed in Italy. France are always dangerous opponents. Holland are not happy at starting the 1982 World Cup campaign with a very difficult game in Dublin.

With little support, a new team and hardly any confidence, the vice-Champions of the World in 1978 are longing for another era of top soccer.

BERT JONGEN.

PAST RESULTS REPUBLIC v. HOLLAND

Year	Date	Venue	R	V	H
1932	May 8	Amsterdam	2	0	
1934	April 8	Amsterdam	2	5	
1935	Dec 8	Dublin	3	5	
1955	May 1	Dublin	1	0	
1956	May 10	Rotterdam	4	1	

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Demonstrated by Trevor Brooking



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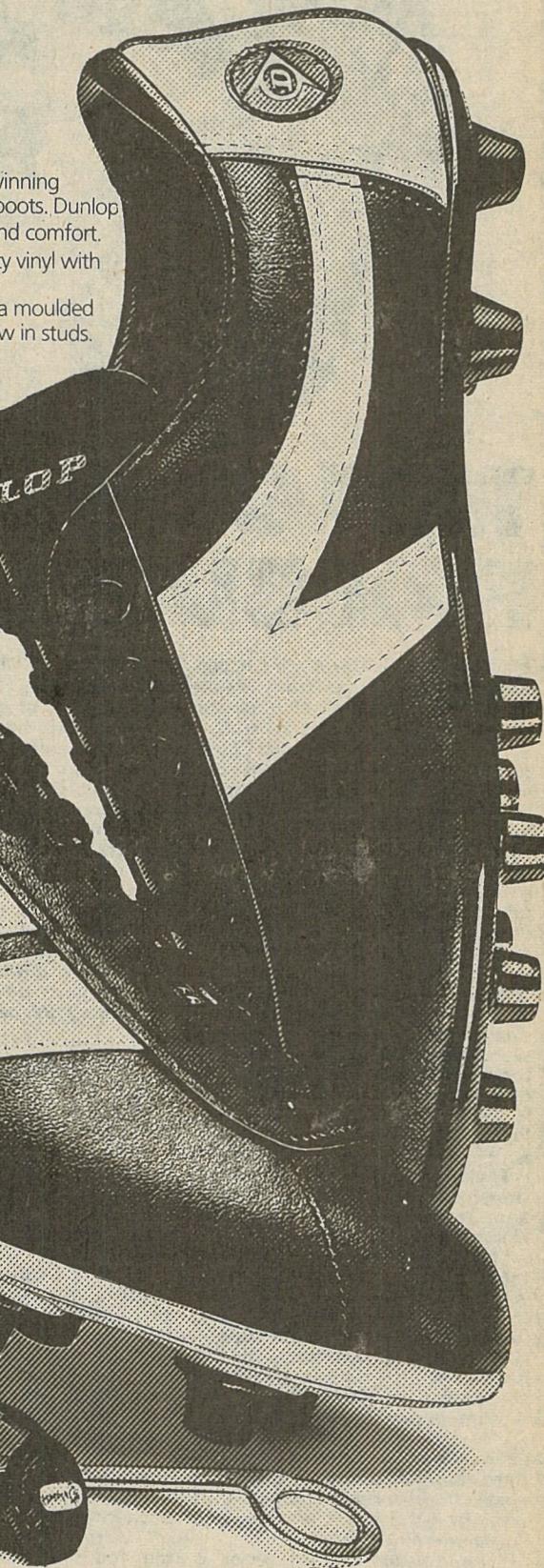
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TAYLOR MADE FOR BURNLEY

STEVE Taylor, Burnley's £35,000 summer signings from Mansfield, is all set to grab 20 goals for the Turf Moor club this season.

"To me that's the magical figure to aim for," says the 24-year-old striker. "If I can reach that total, then I'll consider myself to have had a successful season."

Taylor, who looked set to shoot to fame when he scored goals galore for Bolton and Oldham, has never really recaptured that scoring touch during subsequent moves to Luton and Mansfield.

"I was playing in struggling teams," he explains. "When I was at Luton the side only just managed to avoid relegation. Mansfield were relegated, and it's not easy for a striker to hit the high spots in desperate situations like that.

"Nevertheless, I am still averaging a goal every other game, which isn't bad by anybody's standards."

Taylor asked to be placed on the transfer list at Field Mill six months ago. "I wanted to return to the North West," he says.

"I bought a house in Luton three months after arriving at Kenilworth Road, and last season I was travelling to Mansfield every day, which is a 180-mile round trip.

"I was fed up with that and I felt it was affecting my game. I wasn't settled and I couldn't play my best football under those conditions.

"So I decided to buy a house near Oldham in the hopes that the right club would come along. Two weeks later Burnley stepped in. It was the ideal move and the one I'd been waiting for.

"The set up at Turf Moor is absolutely brilliant. It's the best I've known. They are run more like a First Division team rather than one that's just dropped into the Third."

"They can't do enough for you and that makes you want to do it

on the field. I feel I'm going to do really well here. Hopefully, it's the turning point of my career.

"I've always had a lot of admiration for Burnley. When I played against them in the Second Division with Bolton and Oldham, I was always impressed.

"Team boss Brian Miller is very honest. He calls a spade a spade. He's not dogmatic about the way he does things. Everybody gets their say, which is very important.

"I also have a great deal of admiration for coach Frank Casper. He played up-front in Burnley's First Division days. Sadly, a bad knee injury finished him at the age of 29.

Bonus

"Getting a top striker like that to help you along is an added bonus."

Taylor, a striker whose style is a throwback to the 50's, loves to run on to a through ball. At Burnley he will play alongside Northern Ireland international striker Billy Hamilton.

"Martin Dobson and Tommy Cassidy, who arrived from Newcastle, will supply the ammunition from midfield," says Steve.

"Four new players have joined the club during the close season, so Burnley are really looking to build the team up after suffering relegation.

"We've got the nucleus of a good side and I think we have every chance bouncing straight back into the Second Division.

"We're a team that is going to play football in the true sense, and, looking to the future, I see no reason why the club shouldn't eventually regain its First Division status.

"Meanwhile, I'm just looking forward to getting back on the goal trail."

'I DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE ARSENAL'

IT'S NOT often players get transferred for over £1 million. For it to happen twice in two months is incredible.

As you know, that's the situation I found myself in when Arsenal sensationally swapped me for Crystal Palace and England full-back Kenny Sansom.

Goalkeeper Paul Barron, rated at around £400,000 was also part of the deal, despite a late bid by Spurs.

The suddenness of soccer's most amazing transfer left me as

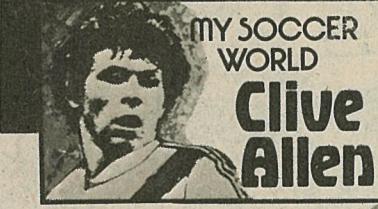
shocked and bewildered as everyone else in the game.

Although the pre-season games with Arsenal hadn't gone as well as I had hoped, I naturally believed I'd be part of the Arsenal set-up for a number of years, especially as they'd invested so much money in me.

It takes time for a new player to settle with a new team and different playing style, but I felt confident of eventually justifying the fee Terry Neill had paid.

The most dramatic 36 hours of my life began on the morning of Tuesday August 12th . . . "The Glorious 12th" for those interested in grouse shooting.

Nothing glorious about that day for me, though. I'd only returned



Palace's opening League game of the season resulted in a 3-0 defeat at Liverpool, a repeat of last season's scoreline.



Paul Barron and Clive Allen contemplate their new careers after moving from Arsenal.

if that's how he felt perhaps he could give me permission to speak to Palace manager Terry Venables.

I met Mr. Venables in a hotel in London and didn't take long in deciding to join him at Selhurst Park.

He didn't try to sell Palace to me. In fact Mr. Venables was more concerned about me and my position.

When I got home and told dad I was going to sign for Crystal Palace he was delighted. Mr. Venables is an old family friend from the time dad signed him as a player from Spurs for Q.P.R.

I went back to London Colney on the Wednesday morning, but didn't train with the Arsenal lads. They were all as surprised as I was about the move. There was no ill-feeling, just a few wisecracks and jokes.

Don Howe had a few words with me before I left. He said Kenny Sansom was a player they had been chasing for a long time . . . a player they desperately needed to bolster their defence.

Before I go on I'd like to dispel rumours that I'm a money-crazy soccer kid. I didn't ask Q.P.R. for a move . . . I certainly didn't want to leave Arsenal.

My signing on fees, which must remain private, will be invested. I haven't seen a penny of the money yet.

Important

Those two deals will set me up, of course, but money has never been all that important to me.

Once I knew Arsenal didn't want me I couldn't wait to join Palace. All I'm glad about is that it all happened before the start of the season. At least I was able to kick-off afresh.

The move has also given me an added incentive . . . to prove Arsenal wrong.

I also believe I'll be a better player at Palace because under Terry Venables I'm being allowed to play my natural role . . . creating chances and scoring goals.

All players have to accept certain defensive duties when the need arises, of course, but at Palace Mr. Venables wants me to concentrate more on my strengths and developing a striking partnership with Mike Flanagan.

Contrary to some reports, I wasn't hurt or embarrassed about the swap. I was able to take it all in my stride, thanks mainly to my father.

His past experience as a player and manager helped me through those traumatic 36 hours.

The only thing I regret about my move to Palace . . . that I didn't make a better start to my new career with the club.

As you know, Paul Barron and I made our Palace debuts against Liverpool on the season's opening day at Anfield . . . never an easy place for opposing strikers to shine.

The Champions won 3-0, although Paul had a blinder.

The most pleasing aspect of the match as far as Palace were concerned was the number of chances

Vince Hilaire, who was sent off against Tottenham after an unfortunate incident with the referee.



we created. I thought we were a little unfortunate not to have scored one or two goals.

I played a little better in Palace's first home match of the season against Spurs on Tuesday August 19th. We lost 3-4 and Vince Hilaire was sent off after an unfortunate incident with the referee.

My next game, however, really helped to cheer us all up after those two early defeats.

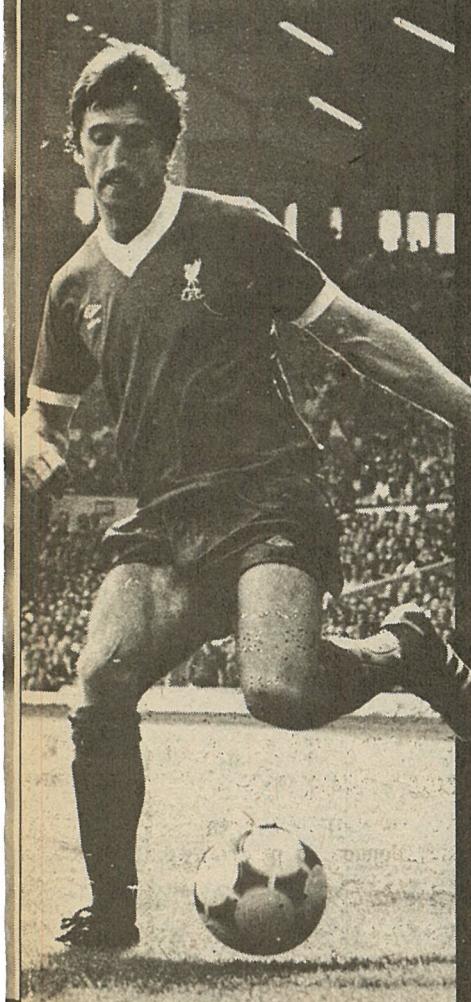
Middlesbrough were our opponents, and when we were trailing 2-1 at half-time it looked as if we could be struggling again.

But in the second half everything seemed to go right. I scored a hat-trick in a 5-2 victory.

Lets hope I and Palace can maintain that form at Coventry this Saturday (September 6th).

I made my Football League debut against Coventry for Q.P.R. in April, 1979 and scored a hat-trick. A similar performance at the weekend will help to prove I'll fit in at Palace.

Next time I'll tell you about my new team-mates at Palace and those I left behind at Arsenal and Q.P.R. Until then . . . cheers . . .



from Yugoslavia with the team the day before and although I'd read reports in the newspapers Palace were interested in a straight swap deal involving me and Kenny Sansom I didn't for one moment believe them.

I drove to Arsenal's training ground at London Colney and was met by coach Don Howe.

He told me to go straight to Highbury to see Terry Neill. That's when I first thought something was up. They never release you at Arsenal until after training unless it's very important.

I travelled to Highbury trying to put everything into perspective . . . wondering what the heck was going on.

Stunned

Terry Neill was sitting in his office when I arrived. He immediately told me: "You've seen the reports in the papers. Well, there's a lot of truth in them."

I was stunned and asked Mr. Neill to explain.

He implied that perhaps I didn't fit in with his players. Also the chance to sign Kenny Sansom had come up and the club felt they could afford to release me.

I thought this strange as Mr. Neill had said previously the club had done their homework on me.

But I didn't feel any resentment towards him or Arsenal. I said I was happy to stay at Highbury but

THIRD Division Oxford United will find it hard to hold on to their 17-year-old England Youth international midfielder Kevin Brock — even though he has already passed up the chance of joining one of five First Division Clubs.

Brock visited Everton, Manchester United, Crystal Palace and Tottenham as a highly-rated schoolboy player, but then decided to sign professional for Oxford, his local club.

He caused an even bigger shock by turning down Brighton after Oxford had agreed a six-figure fee for him last January. But it looks as if the brilliant youngster's Third Division days are numbered.

Transfers

(to opening of season)

Paul Barron Arsenal to Crystal Palace.
Liam Brady Arsenal to Juventus.
Tommy Cassidy Newcastle to Burnley.
Ray Clarke Brighton to Newcastle.
Mike Coady Sunderland to Carlisle.
Garth Crooks Stoke to Spurs.
Gerry Daly Derby to Coventry.
Roy Davies Torquay to Wimbledon.
Steve Dowman Colchester to Wrexham.
Paul Futcher Man City to Oldham.
Paul Goddard Q.P.R. to West Ham.
Peter Hampton Leeds to Stoke.
Dzemal Hadziabdic Velez Mosta

to Swansea.
Gerard Hendrick St. Patrick's to Blackpool.
Gordon Hodgson Oxford to Peterborough.
David Holt Oldham to Burnley.
Billy Ingham Burnley to Bradford.
Roger Jones Stoke to Derby.
Mike Kearney Reading to Chester.
Mick Kennedy Halifax to Huddersfield.
Tommy Langley Chelsea to Q.P.R.
Bob Lee Sunderland to Bristol R.
Stuart Metcalfe Blackburn to Carlisle.
Paul Maguire Shrewsbury to Crewe.
Teddy Maybank Fulham to PSV Eindhoven.
Jim Montgomery N. Forest to Sunderland.
Ken Muirhead Shrewsbury to Crewe.
Drazen Muzinic Hadjuk Split to Norwich.
Noel Parkinson Ipswich to Mansfield.
Martin Peters Norwich to Sheff. Utd.
Paul Petts Bristol R. to Shrewsbury.
Steve Phillips Brentford to Northampton.
Alan Ramage Middlesbrough to Derby.
Neil Ramsbottom Sheff. Utd. to Bradford C.
Kenny Sansom, Crystal Palace to Arsenal.
John Seaman Millwall to Rotherham.
Barry Silksman Man. City to Brentford.
Peter Springett Barnsley to Scarborough.
Tony Towner Millwall to Rotherham.
Gary Williams Djurgaarden (Sw.)
to Blackpool.
George Wood Everton to Arsenal.

'WALES READY TO CHALLENGE' says England



WALES manager Mike England is convinced that the current international side could be the best the country has ever had.

"I am confident that we can qualify for the 1982 World Cup in Spain, and if we do manage that we will be going there as challengers — not just also-rans," England said.

"What makes me even more confident is the exciting nature of our side. We have some really outstanding players just starting to establish themselves at international level — David Giles at Swansea and Paul Price at Luton, for instance."

"Then we have youngsters like Peter Nicolas, Ian Walsh and Jeremy Charles coming through, and we will also be strengthened by the return of Alan Curtis and Robbie James from injury."

"Our success in this year's British Championship has really rekindled interest in the game. With so many attack-minded young players ready to make their mark I think this season could go down as the time when Wales really established themselves as a leading soccer nation."

SOCER success hasn't come easy for Mark Nightingale — a player they once rated a 'boy wonder.'

Nightingale, who has been with Norwich since June, 1977 without establishing himself, was an England Youth international in his days with Bournemouth and had a string of clubs chasing him.

Norwich wanted him in 1976 but were pipped by Crystal Palace. But the youngster who can play in midfield or as a defender, flopped at Palace.

Now Nightingale, who is 23, hopes to make the grade this season.

JOHN STEEPLES, a 21-year-old left-winger with newly-promoted Grimsby Town, has only been a professional for a few months but is already out to establish himself as a first team regular.

The former Doncaster Schoolboys player was spotted by Grimsby while playing for Yorkshire League side Pilkington Recreation, and has caught the eye with a number of outstanding displays.

HOME Farm's Secretary Dr. Brendan Menton is the new President of the Football Association of Ireland.

AN interested spectator at the recent Manchester United-Middlesbrough match was Australian Test bowler Dennis Lillee.

He's taken time off from the "other" Old Trafford, where the Australians were playing Lancashire, and was clearly impressed by United as they kicked off the season with a 3-0 win.

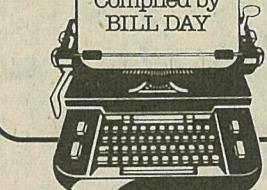
"The atmosphere was absolutely electric, and the Stretford End were nearly as loud as the Sydney Hill," was the wry comment from Lillee.

FORMER England Under-21 star Paul Futcher, now with Oldham Athletic, once played in the same England youth squad as current Luton favourite Tony Greathouse.

Grealish, then with Orient, missed selection for England and went on to become a full Republic of Ireland international — while unlucky Paul Futcher, injured in a car accident, moved to Manchester City, inconsistency and no more international recognition.

NEWS DESK

Compiled by
BILL DAY



CREWE manager Tony Waddington has always believed in the value of experience, and he now has seven players in his first team squad who have topped 200 League games.

They are headed by keeper Ken Mulhearn, with 500 plus, and player-coach Colin Prophett has clocked up more than 400 League outings.

The other five are Dennis Nelson, John McMahon, Mark Palios, Terry Conroy — who has rejoined Waddington after a short trip to Hong Kong — and loan star Bob Mountford.

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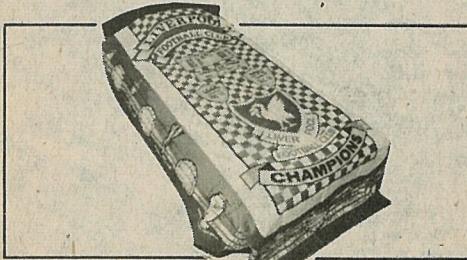
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JIM MILLCHIP, West Bromwich Albion's Chairman and a leading Football Association official, has warned players of exorbitant wage demands.

Millichip said: "The Freedom of Contract clause is now beginning to cause a lot of financial headaches for all Football League clubs."

"No one can stop the clubs making these payments but I feel the time has come for all club chairmen to get together to tackle this ever increasing problem."

GEOFF Forster, the striker who has hit the scoring trail with Hartlepool this season with goals in the League and League Cup, knows quite a bit about putting the ball in the net.

Forster, who comes from Middlesbrough, once hit six goals for South Bank against Billingham to create a post-War record. He has also netted a few in a career where he has also seen service with Rochdale, Berwick Rangers and Darlington. Forster, who is now 26, signed professional for Hartlepool in May.

DERBY have finally been given the all-clear to wear their new 'Fly British Midland' shirts by the F.A. Originally, there were doubts as to whether the shirts were actually endorsing a company rather than a product.

Manager Stanton

PAT Stanton, the former Hibs and Celtic international, has begun his managerial career in earnest by taking charge of Cowdenbeath, the Fife club in the Scottish Second Division.

Pat, who resigned as assistant-manager of Aberdeen at the end of last season, ended speculation as to his future by accepting the job at Central Park.

The opening came about when Paddy Wilson, manager of Cowdenbeath since 1977, resigned at the start of this season for personal reasons.

Said Pat after meeting the Central Park board: "I'm delighted to be back in the game and fully involved."

'Antic's too good for Division Two'

DURING the close season, Luton manager David Pleat was happy to snap up Yugoslav international Radomir Antic from Spanish club Real Zaragoza — where he'd made 58 League appearances as 'sweeper', scoring seven times in the process.

Antic's ball skills and ability to launch deadly counter-attacks had made him a big hit with the fans, and there were public demonstrations when the club decided to release him at the end of last season.

The man who took Antic to Zaragoza in 1978, Yugoslav manager Vujadin Boskov, who is now at the helm of Laurie Cunningham's Real Madrid, says: "He's a very complete player, and I'm sure Luton will be more than happy with his performances. Frankly, I think he's much too good a player for the Second Division."

"I hope they don't play him in midfield because I don't think that's a very good idea at all. It seems a waste of his speed to 'bury' him in midfield. And 30 is maybe a bit late to start learning all the tricks of a completely new position."

"I'm sure he would perform best in a role where he can gain possession and launch runs from the back. In the English long-ball game it's very difficult for a midfielder to get good clean possession with space to sprint forward. If he's got to play further upfield, I'd play him as a false right or left winger . . ."

It certainly didn't take Antic long to win over his Luton team-mates. Says David Moss: "Raddy has got so much skill he can make the ball do all the work, it is magic to play with him."



BANGOR goalkeeper Terry Nicholson, is now in his 18th season of senior football.

nervous Todd

COLIN Todd has played it cool at the heart of the England defence and cruised through as Derby took the Championship. But those experiences were nothing compared to getting promotion back to the top flight last season with Birmingham.

That's what the 30-year-old former Derby, Everton and England defender says of a season which saw him sent off twice, and top 20 points for the first time in his career.

Said Todd: "I can't remember a time in my life when the pressures were so great. Even the Championship season with Derby was less nerve wracking.

"Probably the pressure has been getting to me because I'm older and wiser. When you're younger the pressure doesn't affect you so much."

Todd, however, is in great form back in Division One, and was the inspiration behind Birmingham's opening-day victory over Coventry.

THE footballers of UCD were lucky to escape with their lives during their pre-season tour of Africa. In the game against Merrikh in Khartoum the students were pelted with iron bars and stones when they scored against the locals!

GRAHAM HAWKINS, the former Preston and Blackburn player, has taken over the key role as Shrewsbury Town's chief coach.

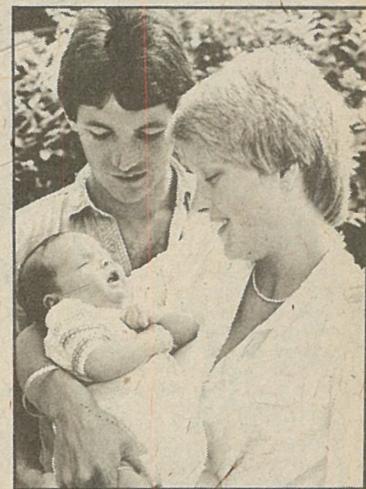
Shrewsbury player-manager Graham Turner is very pleased with the appointment. He feels that the ex-Wolves man has a lot to offer in view of his past experience in the Second Division.

Hawkins, who has had a spell as assistant manager at Port Vale, takes over from Reg Matthewson, who surprisingly quit the Gay Meadow club in May.

DIXIE'S FINAL RESTING PLACE

THE ashes of former goalscoring legend Dixie Dean have been scattered across the pitch at Goodison Park following his sudden death at the Merseyside derby game in May.

Mrs Barbara Walker, Dixie's daughter, revealed: "I scattered his ashes across the halfway line a couple of days after his death. I kept it a secret at the time because I didn't want any publicity, but I feel that the Everton supporters would be happy to know what has happened."



• IPSWICH Town's Scottish international George Burley with his new arrival, Andrew Thomas. George and his pretty wife Jill enjoy the country life living in a village in the heart of Suffolk. With acres of farm land and George's own lawn, a kick-about with dad will soon be a regular feature with young Andrew.

EVERTON'S NEW KING

EVERTON mid-field star Asa Hartford predicts a bright future for teenage mid-field player Steve McMahon (left).

"Stevie is one of those players who does not allow himself to get tied down to one position in the middle of the park. He gets around, and his passing is first-class," says Hartford.

"He has confidence in his own ability, and in a way reminds me a lot of Andy King."

MANCHESTER United's Northern Ireland mid-field ace Sammy McIlroy began the season with more First Division goals to his credit than any other current Football League Ulsterman. Mind you, "Super Sam's" 50-goal tally leaves him a long way short of legendary compatriot Derek Dougan's 219-goal League total, an all-time record for an Irishman.

Briefly...

• FIFTY Boys' Club members aged 13-16 from all over England, Wales and Scotland took part in the National Association of Boys' Clubs Young Footballers Course at the Heswall Camp, Broad Lane, Heswall, Cheshire. The boys received coaching by F.A. Coaches and were instructed in footballing technique and fitness.

• BRITAIN's three major pools companies — Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters — have contributed over £800,000 from their Spotting-The-Ball competition to Scottish Football League clubs by way of grants through the Football Grounds Improvement Trust (FGIT) for approved safety expenditure and there is substantially more on the way.

• COVENTRY City striker Mick Ferguson chipped a bone in his ankle playing for the reserves on the opening day of the season against Liverpool. The injury has been put in plaster, and it will be several weeks before Ferguson is ready to challenge for a first team place.

• ST PATRICK's Athletic manager Charlie Walker has the proud claim that his squad didn't cost the club a penny. The oldest boss in the League of Ireland spends his spare time watching junior football and he signed left-back George Munnelly as he stepped off the train in Dublin!

• THAT shrewd old managerial campaigner Alec Stock appears to have signed another versatile starlet in 19-year-old Nigel Speckman. The Romsey-born youngster has played soccer for Hampshire Schools and

Youth, represented Hampshire Schools at cross-country and also played in an all-England Final at basketball. He is also a student at Cricklade College, Andover.

• SHAMROCK Rovers will play Cosmos when the New York club tour Europe next month.

• MEADOWBANK Thistle have signed talented Scottish youngster Adrián Sprott, who was also a target for Berwick, Falkirk and Ayr.

• SHEFFIELD United are showing an interest in promising Glentoran mid-fielder Ron McCrea, a younger brother of Queens Park Rangers and Northern Ireland star David McCrea.

• PADDY Mulligan has quit Shamrock Rovers to take up a management job in Greece. Mulligan has been appointed assistant to Ronnie Allen at Panathinaikos.



I WAS a shade distressed to have a letter from a young West German fan passed on to me by SHOOT Editor Peter Stewart this week.

Distressed, not because I don't like the boss, but rather because of the contents of the letter from Joachim Feldmann who wrote from his home in Bonn.

Joachim, who is a fan of Liverpool, Manchester United, and West Ham as well as Celtic, says he travels through Germany to see British sides live in action and prefers British football to the West German variety.

He writes: "Naturally after pre-season games often in front of only 500-600 spectators I ask the players for an autograph."



Charlie Nicholas, a lesser-known star at Celtic.

"Two years ago Q.P.R. were marvellous in that kind of fan service. They did not disappear before the last fan got his autograph and some of them were presented with large pennants.

"One player, Dave Clement, even discussed football with us when he was sitting on the subs bench."

Fair comment so far but then comes the alarming bit.

"But when I visited a Celtic game

against an amateur side the players showed totally different behaviour.

"Before the game and during half-time nearly the whole team and coaching staff refused to sign autographs.

"After the game only 20 or 30 fans stayed at the ground, but as the players appeared they rushed through and hurried to their bus as if there was no one there.

"Only Murdo MacLeod, who signed his SHOOT Focus, Danny McGrain and one or two others showed respect for the fans and wrote their names on pictures.

"The whole team could have

all of the people happy all of the time but I finished that tour with the belief that most people were happy with the impression left by Celtic.

I can only suggest that the lesser known players like youngsters Charlie Nicholas and John Halpin weren't recognised and hence were not asked for their autographs and that it looked to Joachim as if they were pushing past fans.

But you can take my word that wasn't the case.

At Parkhead we do our best to go to as many supporters nights as possible, but we can hardly make it seven nights a week, and if two do clash you are going to upset someone, who will almost certainly end up calling you big-headed.

My apologies to Joachim but he must have misinterpreted the situation. We just don't operate that way at Celtic and don't want anyone to think we do.



'Shocked by a letter from Germany'

satisfied all remaining fans if they had stayed five more minutes — but they didn't."

Joachim goes on to point out that the image of British football on the Continent is all about riots, hooliganism, drunken fans and trouble in the streets and claims that the teams who go to Germany could change that if they weren't so arrogant.

Well, I was stunned by the letter.

Admittedly, there are bad times for fans to ask for autographs, namely just before kick-off and immediately after a bad result. And to be honest, half-time is not too great either.

But the match in question — against the amateurs of Wessling — put Celtic under no pressure whatsoever and the 8-0 victory was hardly a bad result.

I can only put it down to a misunderstanding because no club is more aware of the importance of a good relationship with the money-paying fans than us.

Of course it is impossible to keep

Meanwhile, can I thank personally the 43,000 who turned up for my testimonial match against Manchester United at Parkhead.

It was an amazing night and I would like to make a special mention of Lawrie McMenemy, who made a special return flight from West Germany just to speak at my dinner.

When they call him the Big Man they mean it in more ways than one. And when it comes to cracking a few jokes he made Bob Hope look like a beginner.

He is a Saint right enough. See you in two weeks.

NEXT WEEK'S TARTAN
TALK BY RANGERS'
DEREK JOHNSTONE

NOBBY



ALL-TIME GREATS



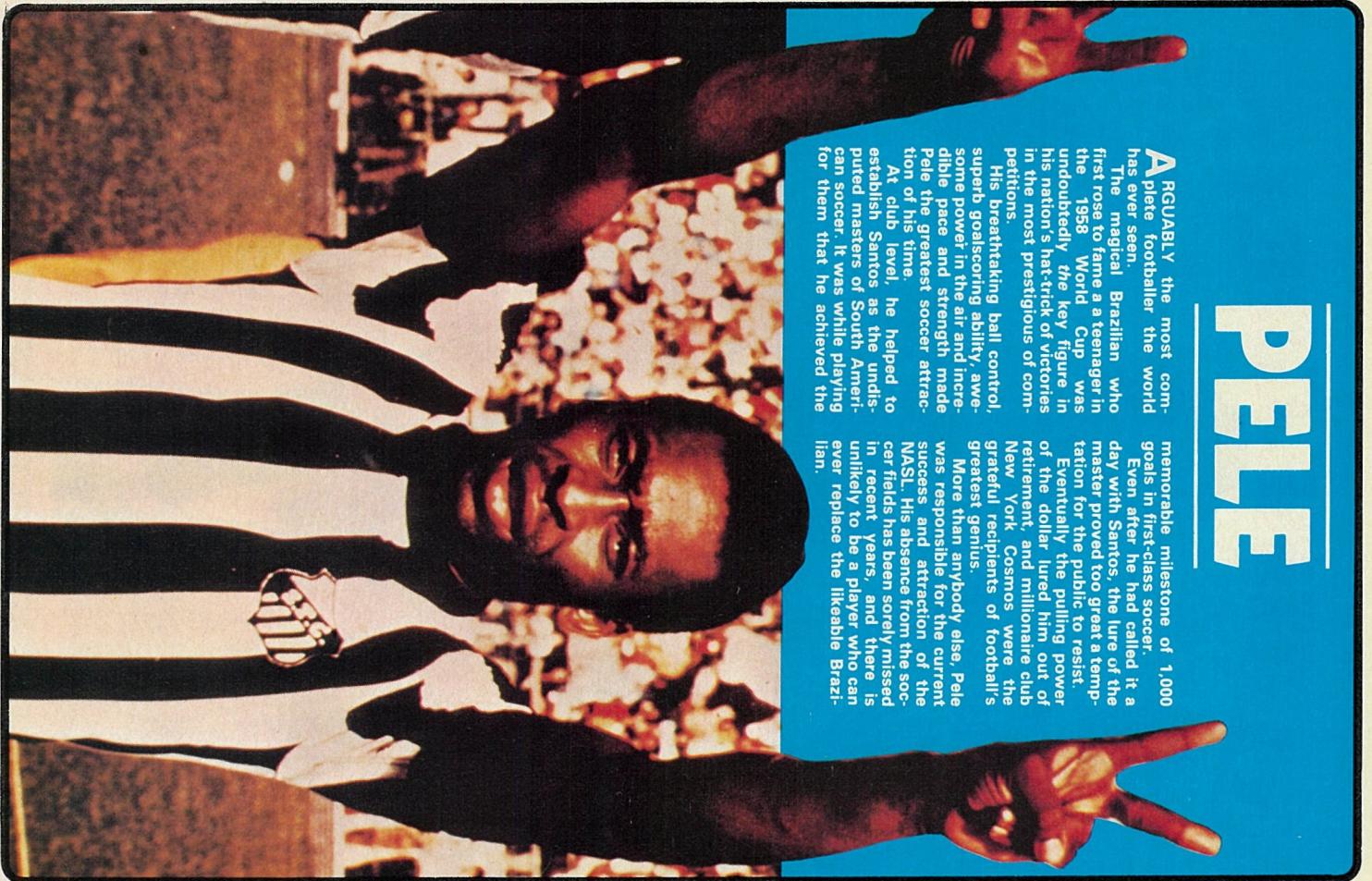
Although we have tried to include as many of the great names of soccer as possible, obviously we have not been able to feature everybody, and would like to apologise for any omissions.

ROGER BYRNE

A Mancunian who became one of the "Busby Babes", first developing with Manchester United as an outside-left but converting into one of the country's finest left-backs. There was no more thoughtful defender than Roger Byrne, who won a League Championship medal in his initial season of First Division football (1951-52) and had established himself as England's left-back before winning two more Championship medals — in 1955-56 and 1956-57. By this time he had enhanced his reputation as the team's skipper and led them to Wembley in 1957, but they were rather unluckily beaten by Aston Villa after being reduced to ten men early in the game.

One of the speediest full-backs of his day, this studious player established himself in the England side with a run of 33 consecutive appearances. The last was against France in November, 1957, for before England's next game against Scotland in April, 1958 Roger Byrne died tragically in the Munich air crash.





PELE

ARGUABLY the most complete footballer the world has ever seen. The magical Brazilian who first rose to fame as a teenager in the 1958 World Cup was undoubtedly the key figure in his nation's hat-trick of victories in the most prestigious of competitions.

His breathtaking ball control, superb goalscoring ability, awe-inspiring pace and strength made Pele the greatest soccer attraction of his time.

At club level, he helped to establish Santos as the undisputed masters of South American soccer. It was while playing

memorable milestone of 1,000 goals in first-class soccer. Even after he had called it a day with Santos, the lure of the master proved too great a temptation for the public to resist.

Eventually the pulsing power of the dollar lured him out of retirement, and millionaire club New York Cosmos were the grateful recipients of football's greatest genius.

More than anybody else, Pele was responsible for the current success and attraction of the NASL. His absence from the soccer fields has been sorely missed in recent years, and there is unlikely to be a player who can ever replace the likeable Brazilian.



CARLOS ALBERTO

BRASIL are leading Italy 3-1 in the 1970 World Cup Final. Pele chests down a pass from Gerson and pauses to look around. As three Italian defenders converge on him, he clips a pass out to the right — into the path of full-back Carlos Alberto, seen extreme right, who unleashes a rocket-shot with the outside of his right foot, beating Albertosi at the far post and ballooning the back of the net. It's a dream climax for the

Brazilian captain who'd worked so hard and brilliantly in the engine room of the team that set new standards for football. Born on July 17th, 1947, the Rio de Janeiro defender represented his country 72 times at right-back, tackling hard, covering well, staying cool and then surging forward in powerful upfield runs to score vital goals while the opposition were watching Pele, Jairzinho and Rivelino.

GEORGE BEST

THE original soccer bad-boy, George Best finished his career in the soccer backwaters of Stockport County, Fulham, and Hibernian in Britain, and with Fort Lauderdale Strikers in America.

But it was during his decade with Manchester United that Best lives on in the memories of football followers.

A lean youngster from the streets of Belfast, Best was taken under the protective wing of Matt Busby at Old Trafford and emerged as one of the most naturally talented British footballers in history.

On his day Best was unstoppable. An eye for the spectacular and a real flair for the outrageous. George was at the nucleus of the great United side of the Sixties.

Alongside Bobby Charlton and Denis Law his gifts were used to the absolute maximum during the Old Trafford glory days, and George was the scorer of the European Cup-winning goal in 1968.

Sadly, the trappings of success proved a more formidable opponent than the majority of First Division defences for George. There is no doubt that his apparently limitless talents were wasted in his off the field activities.

His international career with Northern Ireland spanned 14 years but only 37 full caps.

Perhaps had he been born in England his erratic skills would have blossomed to an even greater extent.

Nevertheless he achieved world-wide fame despite the unfashionable nature of his international team and that, perhaps more than anything, bears witness to the true greatness of one of soccer's all-time enigmas.

1962 and 1969, scoring 18 goals in the process. A lightning fast forward, Hunt formed the perfect partnership at Anfield with Ian St John. During his time at Liverpool Hunt gained two League Championship medals, an F.A. Cup winners' medal, a Second Division Champions' medal and also appeared in the 1966 European Cup Winners' Cup Final before finishing his career with Bolton.

Now Hunt runs his own business from his offices on the outskirts of Liverpool. A frequent visitor to Anfield, he was the natural successor to the great Billy Liddell.

ROGER HUNT

ROGER Hunt occupies an unusual position in British football history — the one-time idol of the Kop but the unsung hero of England's World Cup triumph in 1966.

In his ten years with Liverpool, Hunt helped the club from the obscurity of a mid-Second Division place to their current position as undisputed masters of English soccer.

He scored a club record 245 League goals between 1959 and 1969, 41 of which came in one season — Liverpool's last in Division Two. He also won 34 full England caps between

CHARLIE HURLEY

UNLIKE his great contemporary from the same city — Noel Cantwell — there is no doubt about Charlie Hurley's rightful position, for he was a centre-half from the first time he appeared in his school team in Essex. Yes, although Hurley was born in Cork, he moved at the age of seven with his parents to Hornchurch.

After turning down an offer from West Ham he joined Millwall in 1953. Four years later, when Sunderland were struggling to maintain their First Division status, the stylish Hurley was one of their signings. The injection of new blood came too late to save them from the drop but Hurley had the satisfaction of helping them back into the First Division in 1963-64 when he was one of their most consistent players.

After 12 seasons at Roker park the powerfully built Hurley joined Bolton as player-coach and played for two seasons to 1971. During his career he was one of Eire's most regular choices, making 40 appearances.

NOEL CANTWELL

DESPITE the fact that this Irishman from Cork is Eire's joint leading goalscorer (Jimmy Dunne is the other) with 14 goals in 36 internationals, it is as a defender, and particularly a left-back, that Noel Cantwell earned a place among the all-time greats.

Noel was versatile enough to have played 11 times at left-back and six at centre-half. Although occasionally used in the attack during his 15 seasons with West Ham and Manchester United, he never scored more than four in any season.

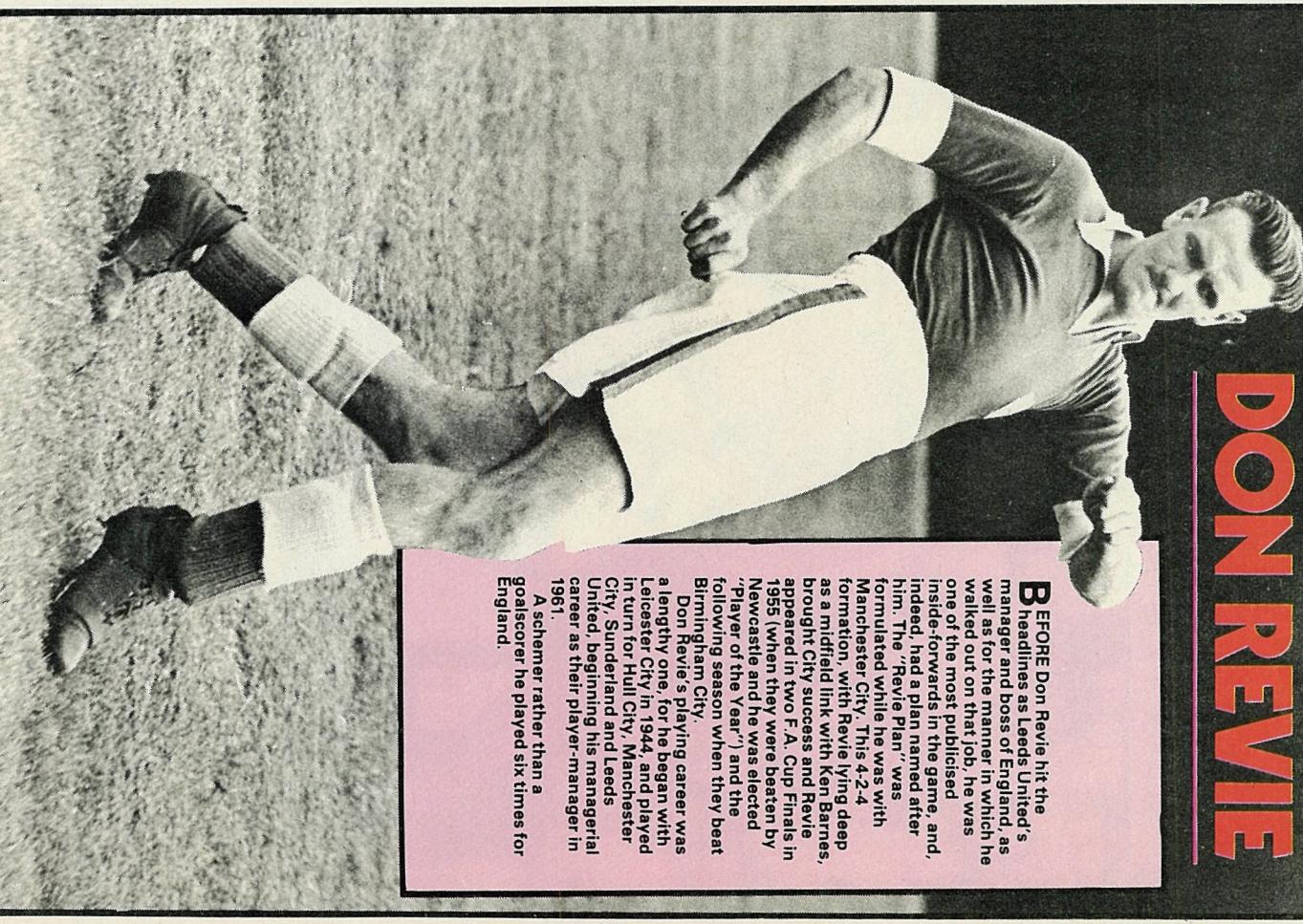
West Ham signed him as a left-back from Cork Athletic in 1952 and he captained their side that won promotion to the First Division in 1958. When Manchester United were chasing around for a defender to tighten up their rearguard Matt Busby paid nearly £30,000 for his transfer in November 1960. He won an F.A. Cup medal with United in 1963 and with his ability to use the ball intelligently must rank among the more classical full-backs of the Post-war era.

DON REVIE

BEFORE Don Revie hit the headlines as Leeds United's manager and boss of England as well as for the manner in which he walked out on that job, he was one of the most publicised inside-forwards in the game, and, indeed, had a plan named after him. The "Revie Plan" was formulated while he was with Manchester City. This 4-2-4 formation, with Revie lying deep as a midfield link with Ken Barnes, brought City success and Revie appeared in two F.A. Cup Finals in 1955 (when they were beaten by Newcastle) and he was elected "Player of the Year" and the following season when they beat Birmingham City.

Don Revie's playing career was a lengthy one, for he began with Leicester City in 1944, and played in turn for Hull City, Manchester City, Sunderland and Leeds United, beginning his managerial career as their player-manager in 1961.

A schemer rather than a goalscorer he played six times for England.



PETERS' PROBLEM

MARTIN Peters begged for one thing above all else when he took over as player-coach at Sheffield United at the start of the season.

He implored United's success-starved fans to be patient and not expect overnight miracles from one of the most outstanding talents British football has ever produced.

The man once dubbed by Sir Alf Ramsey as 'a player ten years ahead of his time' knows it will take a while to get United moving forward again.

He is convinced he can help them do it. But he stresses it is going to take time. Anyone expecting instant miracles is living in a dream world.

Peters finished a glittering playing career with West Ham, Tottenham, Norwich and England to move in as coach at Bramall Lane last month.

He is the biggest thing to happen to them for many years and a lot of people seem to be taking it for granted that his very presence in the place is a guarantee of success.

But that's not the way Martin, 37 in November, sees it.

There will be problems as he sets about his new job. And the biggest of these will be his complete lack of knowledge of the Third Division.

That's an entirely unknown and unexplored area to Peters — who spent practically all his previous 19 years as a professional at the very top.

"I've had no more than a dozen games outside the First Division. They were with Norwich when I joined them in 1975 and played in the final matches of their promotion run," says Peters.

"While the United supporters and players may be looking to me to help them they have to help me just as much.

"I really am going in at the deep end as far as knowledge of my new surroundings goes. But I'm a quick learner and I'm certain I'll soon get to grips with it.

"A lot of people questioned my decision in leaving the First Division just yet. They were kind enough to suggest I could still have played on at the top for another couple of years.

"But I have always had an ambition to move into coaching eventually — and United offered me the right opening.

"It really was too good to turn down. That's why I reluctantly decided to leave Norwich — a lovely club, run by marvellous people.

"It's the first time I've ever lived in the North. That's something else the family have to come to terms with.

'Lifetime'

"But we settled down in Norwich quickly after a lifetime in London, so I see no reason why we shouldn't do the same here.

"Things were hectic early on, with a programme of two matches a week and my spare time taken up in looking for a house.

"But I have been encouraged by what I have seen so far and it took about 48 hours to convince me I had done the right thing in coming here.

"Harry Haslam — the United boss and one of the greatest characters in the game — brought me here to take charge of the coaching, with a view to becoming team manager

eventually.

"And he has been as good as his word — giving me complete freedom to run the training.

"The players have made me very

welcome and are absorbing the ideas I have passed on to them.

"Things we have worked on in training are already paying off in matches — so that has to be encouraging.

"But I can't stress enough that I have embarked on a long term job. Anyone who thinks my influence will help United storm straight to the top of the Third Division and stay there all season is kidding himself — as well as putting me under unfair pressure.

"There's quite a bit to be done — and it's going to take time to do it.

"For a start I'd like to get two or three new players in to add strength to the squad and create competition for places. We don't have that at the moment.

"Whatever happens I'm completely my own man here. If I don't succeed I'll have no one to



Sheffield United (stripes) still have a long way to go before they are ready to sustain a promotion challenge claims new player-coach Martin Peters (above).

blame but myself."

When you think of Peters' pedigree any thoughts of failure seem absurd. For he has learned his trade under some of the finest coaching brains in the business.

He played for Ron Greenwood at West Ham, Bill Nicholson at Tottenham, John Bond at Norwich and, of course, Ramsey with England — where he gained 67 caps and scored one of the goals in the 1966 World Cup Final victory over West Germany.

If he has not picked up something from that impressive lot he must have been walking round blindfolded.

And that is not Martin's style at all. His shrewd brain has been alert throughout his career and he has never missed an opportunity to learn.

That is what has made him a truly outstanding player. We believe he will make an equally big impact on the coaching side and wish him all the best in his exciting new venture.

He has made a fine start, with goals against Carlisle and Chesterfield to help United to maximum points in their first two League games.

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Baines has bounced back

ROY BAINES firmly believes that goalkeepers must have a sense of humour. If they didn't they would never put life, limb and reputation on the line every match day in the most thankless role in soccer.

Baines, who owns a pub in Scotland called — would you believe — 'The Keeper's Arms', has had the sort of career that is normally reserved for Boy's Own comic stories.

English-born Baines began his career as an amateur with Derby, but confesses "I always wanted to play for Celtic. I admired them and their style and I was determined to make it to Parkhead."

The bold Baines actually managed to get a trial for the Scottish giants, but didn't do enough to persuade Jock Stein to sign him. Stein, however, tipped off his close friend Bob Shankly, brother of Liverpool legend Bill, that he might do a job for Hibs.

Shankly, then the Hibs manager, gave Baines a couple of trials and immediately signed him.

"I knew I would play at Parkhead some day for a team wearing green and white," says Baines. "But I didn't think it would be against Celtic!"

For some unaccountable reason Baines' form took a kamikaze dip and he was eventually given a free transfer.

"It was hard to accept at first," says Baines. "I knew I wasn't a has-been, but things had gone wrong and my confidence had suffered. However, I was determined to fight my way back."

Morton gave him his opportunity and Baines was soon in their first team, playing with all his old verve and courage. But, just when things were going so well he staged a walk-out!

Baines refused to play for the Cappielow men because of a behind-the-scenes wrangle, but everything was sorted out when a club bought him. Which club? Celtic!

'Accepted'

"I could hardly believe it," says Baines. "They offered Morton £20,000 PLUS Andy Ritchie for me and manager Benny Rooney accepted. Jock Stein told me he thought I had progressed since he had first seen me. I was the happiest man on earth when I signed those forms."

Celtic fans still feel Baines didn't get a fair deal at Parkhead to show his worth. He was in and out of the first team and eventually there was only one solution ... a move from Celtic.

Baines packed his football kit and moved on to ... Morton! They bought him back for only £20,000 and Roy says: "I didn't see it was a

backward step. Far from it.

"Morton were now a progressive, go-ahead outfit looking forward to making a challenge in the Premier Division and things were happening around Cappielow. I was happy to sign, but, obviously, it was a wrench to leave Parkhead."

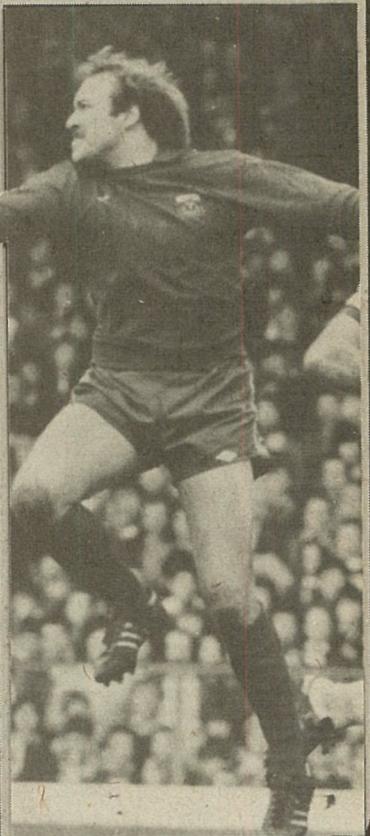
"However, I did pick up valuable experience there and I'm not grumbling. Morton are one of the most attractive teams in the Top Ten and I'm happy to be here."

Morton may not have made the ideal start to the season, losing 2-1 at Celtic and then 4-1 at home to St. Mirren in their first two League games, but Baines remains confident.

"I think Morton can build on last season, when we led the table for a while," Baines continues. "We have a good team and a good manager, and we no longer look to just hold our own in the Premier Division."

Baines is now one of the safest keepers in Scotland. His consistency is breathtaking and manager Benny Rooney says: "He is one of my best-ever buys. Every penny counts at Cappielow, but Roy certainly gives value for money."

The last laugh is now with Baines on the clubs who rejected him.



NO ONE could have blamed Airdrie veteran goalkeeper Ernie McGarr if his knees were shaking slightly before his side's Premier Division game against mighty Rangers that kicked off their first-ever spell in the Scottish Premier Division.

Last season McGarr had been given a good illustration of the goal power of teams in the Top Ten as

Aberdeen scored eight when Airdrie went to Pittodrie on Scottish Cup business.

"That was a terrible afternoon," recalls McGarr. "It was made even worse for me because it was my first time back at Pittodrie since leaving Aberdeen almost a decade ago."

"I was eager to show the fans up there that I could still play, but it was just one of those days. We had two players sent-off and Steve Archibald scored four goals before half-time!"

If McGarr was nervous at facing another Premier outfit in the season's big-kick-off, it certainly wasn't evident against Rangers.

McGarr, bought for a paltry fee by shrewd manager Bobby Watson from Cowdenbeath last year, was brilliant against the Ibrox men, who came to Broomfield with impressive pre-season victories over Arsenal and Spurs under their belts.

McGarr saves at the feet of Rangers' Davie Cooper in Airdrie's first game in the Premier Division.

The ageless McGarr was as sprightly as a teenager as he pulled off save after save to foil and frustrate Rangers, who eventually had to settle for a 1-1 draw.

"It was vital we got off to a good start," says McGarr. "We may be a part-time side, but so, too, are Partick Thistle and they have managed to live with the pressure of the Premier Division for the past

four years.

"We are not afraid of anyone. We will treat everybody with equal respect and I expect they will return that feeling. I don't think there will be many teams who will relish coming to Broomfield this season."

Rangers manager John Greig applauds the spirit of the new boys when he says: "They play every game like it is a Cup Final and that is the right attitude.

"They battle for everything and they fight right until the end. They got their equaliser against us seven minutes from time. They just never gave up."

McGarr has had an up and down career, but he still enjoys his soccer. He displaced Bobby Clark for almost an entire season at Pittodrie and earned Scottish caps against Austria and the Republic of Ireland.

However, Clark fought back to take his first team spot and McGarr eventually moved on. He did a swift tour of the Fife clubs before settling with Airdrie, and while he turns in performances like the one against Rangers there can be no thoughts of quitting.

Ronnie Simpson was still an immensely talented 'keeper at 37 before injury brought his magnificent career with Celtic and Scotland to an end.

McGarr looks fit enough and good enough to keep on going until he passes that magic figure at Broomfield.

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FIRST DAY WINNERS



It didn't take Garth Crooks long to make his mark at Tottenham after a £600,000 move from Stoke. He scored a tremendous goal against Nottingham Forest, leaving England goalkeeper Peter Shilton trailing in his wake (above).

Kenny Sansom, Britain's first £1 million defender, made a winning start with Arsenal at West Bromwich Albion (right). Southampton's Mike Channon (above, right) managed to upstage even Kevin Keegan with both goals against his old club Manchester City at The Dell.

ANYONE who expects manager Ron Greenwood to make wholesale changes in team selection and to employ a different playing strategy will, I'm sure, be disappointed next Wednesday when England play Norway in the first of our group matches for qualification for the 1982 World Cup Finals in Spain.

The boss will stick mainly to the men and the methods which earned us a place in the European Championship in Italy during the summer.

The reason we failed to reach the Final of that competition was simple: we just didn't reproduce the form we'd shown in our qualifying games.

For Ron Greenwood to go in for massive rebuilding and to abandon his philosophy of how to play the game would smack of panic. And the boss is not the sort of man to do that.

In his three years at the helm he has placed England on the path to rejoining the top strata of international teams, and one setback will not cause him to ditch his beliefs and the core of players who have dedicated themselves to his cause.

Certainly he was disappointed in England's poor showing in Italy, where we finished well down the pack. No one would have blamed him if he'd decided to quit and hand over to someone else. In fact, this was something we dreaded.

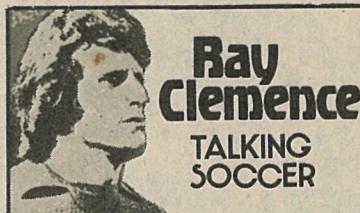
But Ron has that quality he par-

ticularly admires in players — fighting spirit.

Now he's back in the old routine, preparing us for our next big challenge, qualification for the World Cup in Spain.

The task has been made easier through F.I.F.A. increasing the number of places from 16 to 24, but there's no question of us not applying ourselves 100 per cent, simply because our main objective is to repeat the achievement of the England class of '66, and to win the trophy for the second time.

Although, as I stated earlier, Ron Greenwood won't go in for drastically changing the make-up of his team, he'll gradually introduce some younger blood, probably in the friendlies we have lined up.



I anticipate that at the most he'll bring in two youngsters in any one game, as he knows from experience that more than that number completely unbalances the team.

Stepping up from club football to the international level requires a big adjustment. Main reason for this is that in the League you're only faced with something like a couple of

'Kevin Keegan has scored some classic goals for England'



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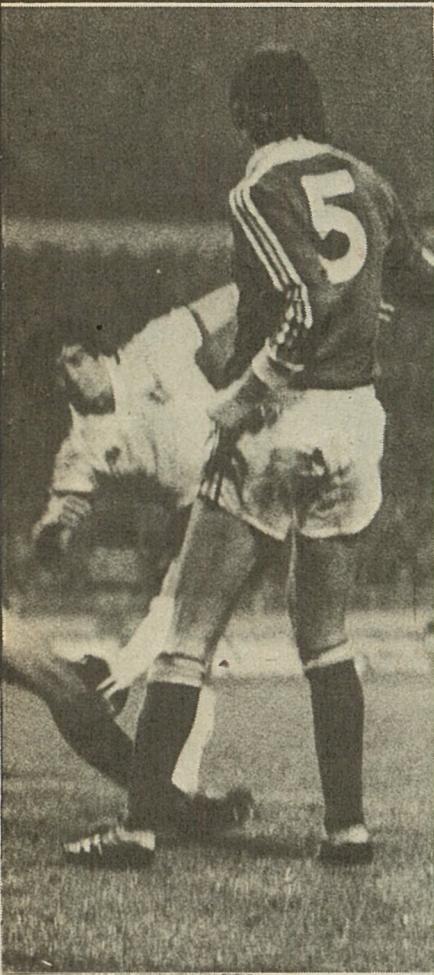


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Kevin Keegan has been a consistent goalscorer for England. Here he nets against the Republic of Ireland.

internationals amongst your opponents, some of them probably not regulars; whereas in the international sphere the opposition consists of the eleven best their country has to offer.

Generally, international teams are well organised and difficult to break down, which calls for the ability to slow the game in the centre of the field and accelerate the pace around the opponents' penalty area.

It's vital to keep possession of the ball in highly-skilled company. Once you've lost it, it can take a lot of chasing around to get it back.

Painstaking

Patience is the watchword. Unlike our domestic football, played at 100mph, it's more akin to chess. Our fans, brought up on exciting end-to-end play, must accept the more painstaking style of international football.

Ron's biggest problem is the dearth of youngsters with outstanding ability. Proof of this is the number of players in the England squad around the 30-mark, far more than 20 years ago when there were so many up-and-coming younger players thrusting older ones aside.

It seems to me that many lads today tend to stand still once they've won a place in their club first team, instead of continuing to improve on basic skills and perfect anything exceptional.

Only two players have recently staked claims to regular full places:

Ray Wilkins and Kenny Sansom. Both have measured up to requirements with their skill and composure.

Against Belgium in the opening match of the European Championship, Ray scored one of the best-taken goals I've ever seen, advancing with the ball, luring the 'keeper from his line, and then calmly chipping the ball over his head and into the net.

Kenny has that essential quality demanded of a modern full-back inasmuch as he attacks as effectively as he defends.

Spurs' Glenn Hoddle is a borderline case. He has a tendency to drift out of a game after making a great impression, and must learn to sustain his performance over the full 90 minutes.

Following our failure to win the European Championship, some sections of the media campaigned for changes, and I particularly resented one writer who said I should be "pensioned off" and sent back to Anfield.

I don't feel any sense of guilt, that I'm to be blamed for anything that happened, and feel I can still make a big contribution to the England cause. Over the next couple of years I plan to make that particular critic eat his words.

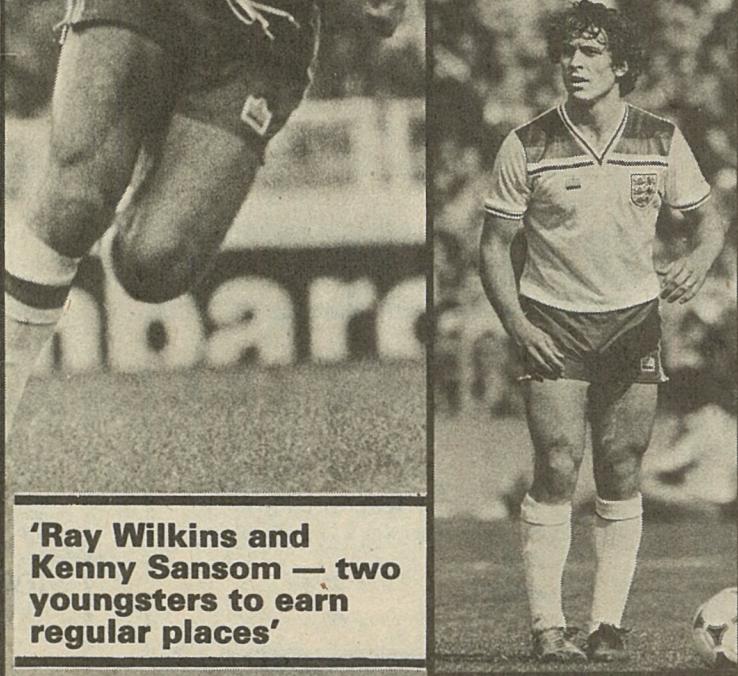
The English player who came under most attack from the Press was Kevin Keegan, who unfortunately fell below the standards he's set for himself in Italy. His hectic lifestyle was blamed. Conveniently forgotten was that Kev has lived in the same fashion ever since he

became a big name: dashing about fulfilling his various commercial contracts, while at the same time earning a world class rating as a player.

He's been a marvellous captain for England, helping to create terrific team spirit and leading by example on the field. Two of his goals were classics: the one he scored against the Republic of Ireland at Wembley when he beat several players on the run and then calmly lobbed the advancing 'keeper with his weaker foot, his left; and the other against Argentina, also at Wembley, lashing a ball steadied by Steve Coppell into the net.

Judging by his performances for his new club, Southampton, Kev is back in refreshing form and eager

'RON GREENWOOD WON'T PANIC'



'Ray Wilkins and Kenny Sansom — two youngsters to earn regular places'

to shine against the Norwegians.

Another player for whom things didn't go right in Italy was Tony Woodcock, now with Cologne. He'll also be keen to silence his critics.

In a previous column I nominated Norway as the weakest team in our group. But that doesn't mean we'll be underestimating them. Having seen some of their First Division football while coaching during the past two close seasons, I've grown to respect their players for the strength and fitness that enables them to keep going without let-up for the full 90 minutes.

There's no way we'll be able to grind them down and then score a lot of goals.

We'll have to patiently work away at their blanket defence to create openings.

Inspiring

We're all delighted at starting our campaign at Wembley, in front of the fans who have flocked back to provide us with inspiring support. Not only will a resounding win by a large margin help us repay them, it will get us off to that vital good start.

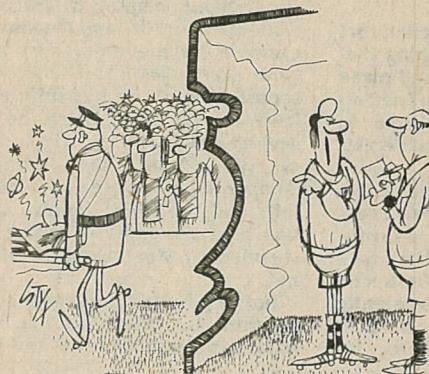
The group is like a mini-League, and when you're in the lead it gives you a big psychological advantage.

It's the position we at Liverpool prefer, and which we hope to hold on the Saturday before the Norway match, when we travel to Birmingham City in the League.

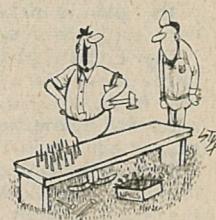
As a newly-promoted club, The Blues, a mixture of youth and experience, will be full of enthusiasm and out to prove their worth.

St Andrews has never been a happy hunting ground for us — we've always struggled there — so we'll be content to come away with a point!

FOOTBALL FUNNIES



"But I didn't touch him, ref. He walked into the post."



"Ah well — that should keep the substitute on his toes."



"It was the way you fooled their 'keeper that you weren't going to shoot — and the way you fooled me when you did."



"Our new £1 million striker just phoned. He's pulled a ligament playing cricket."



"Mine's from the Inland Revenue."



"I saw you threaten their number eight when you thought I wasn't looking."



This week Gerry Daly, Coventry City's recent signing from Derby County, selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.

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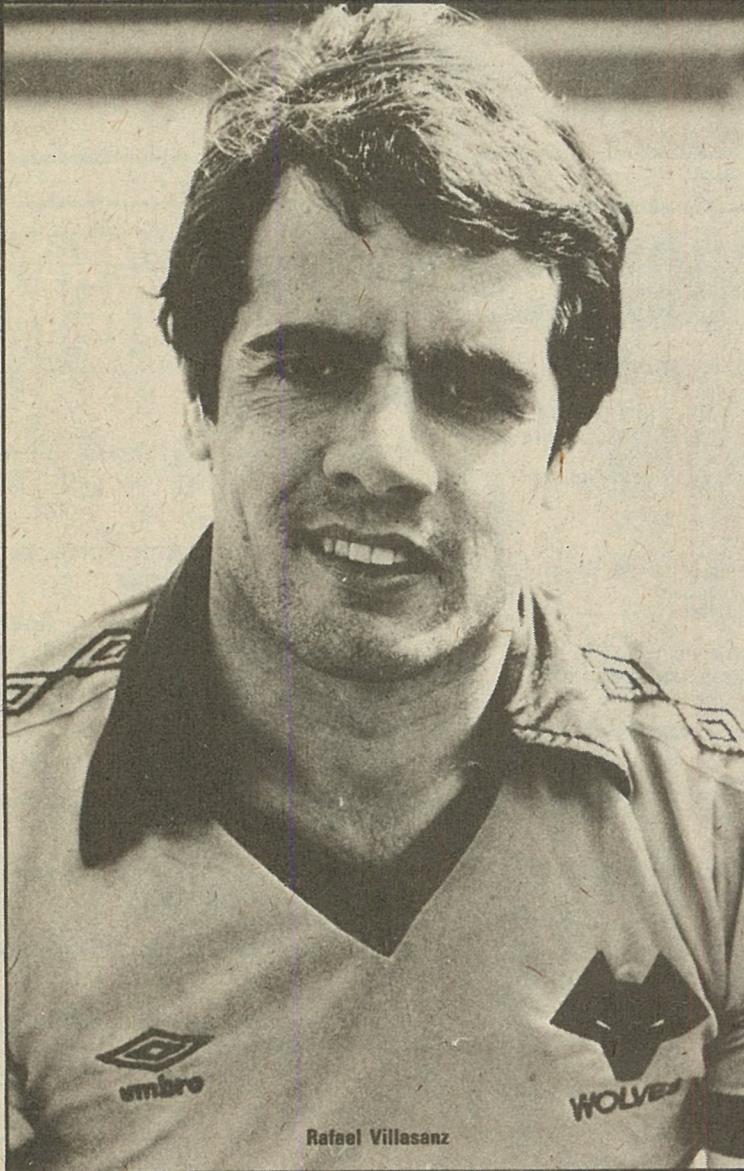
ALTHOUGH Wolves were the pioneers of European football during the 50's, it is still somewhat puzzling that the first foreign player at Molineux should be a virtually unknown Uruguayan, whose name has been spelt (or rather, mis-spelt) many different ways, who was signed from a Spanish Second Division club and who is, to quote John Barnwell "my most complicated signing ever."

Finding full details of the transfer is as difficult as organising a strike in Moscow. If anyone knows what went on, they aren't saying and rumours that eight or nine



**Chris
Davies
meets...**

WOLVES' MYSTERY MAN



Rafael Villasanz

different people were involved can't be substantiated. Similarly, why Wolves claim to have paid £160,000 yet reports in Spain put the fee received at considerably less add even more intrigue to the transfer of Wolves' Mystery Man.

In fact, Rafael Villasanz is a very nice person with an engaging smile, very little English and an astonishingly attractive wife whose English matches her looks.

I got the impression that Villasanz, himself, still isn't sure what a Uruguayan who was playing in the anonymity of the Spanish Second Division is doing in the League he rates "the best in the world".

He is, naturally, delighted, if surprised. "About five months ago the president of Huelva told me there was the possibility of joining an English or West German club,"

Villasanz told me.

"The thought of playing in the English First Division had never entered my head. I had a suspicion that I might have been moving on from Huelva, but only to another Spanish club.

"I looked upon Wolves as a new stage in my career. I've always had a high regard for English football. Another point was that I was not only switching countries, I was also moving up a Division."

But what about the transfer, which took several weeks to finalise? At one time Wolves were reported to have bought Villasanz and Huelva had spent the 'money' on a replacement. When matters were sorted out, and the transfer was found NOT to be complete, the replacement was sent back.

"I know nothing about all this.



There are parts of the transfer I'll never even find out for myself. I dealt only with the president of Huelva. The player is invariably the last to know what's going on. I was just happy when the deal was finalised."

Villasanz was born in the Uruguayan capital of Montevideo 24 years ago and moved to the provinces when his father's work (he was a doctor) took him there.

"I studied medicine, too. It wasn't a case of always wanting to be a footballer. However, I joined Nacional at 15 and they were my only club in Uruguay. I was an amateur for four years and a professional for three.

"I won 30 caps for my country and played for them in the 1978 World Cup qualifying ties. We had a very young team — the average age was only 22, which is why we didn't reach Argentina. All the good players from the early 70's had either retired or gone abroad. We were left with a lot of inexperienced youngsters."

The image of Uruguayan football is one of (a) tough, (b) hard and (c) strong.

"Uruguayan football is certainly the hardest in South America. It's also more technical and slower than in Spain. You learn to look after yourself in the Spanish Second Division.

'Effective'

"English soccer is more direct, simpler and more effective. In Uruguay, a forward is tempted to beat one player too many, whereas in England the strikers are more practical."

Villasanz hopes to play in the centre of defence, but has experience of midfield. His ambition right now is to become 'fully adapted and learn English.'

He continued: "I don't like being isolated and I want to be able to talk to the other Wolves players as quickly as possible. Everyone has helped me and I don't expect any problems other than the normal ones for someone coming to a foreign country."

"As soon as I knew of Wolves' interest I followed their progress closely, so I knew a fair bit about them when I arrived. The first team is strong and from what I've seen, the junior side is also very promising."

With that, Villasanz went off to train. They call him Raf at Molineux — Wolves have certainly come a long way since those prestige friendlies against Moscow Dynamo 25 years ago.

The Uruguayan from the Spanish Second Division hails the beginning of a new era for one of England's most famous clubs.

The Uruguayan international could make a big impact with Wolves.

ON THE BALL CROSSWORD

ACROSS

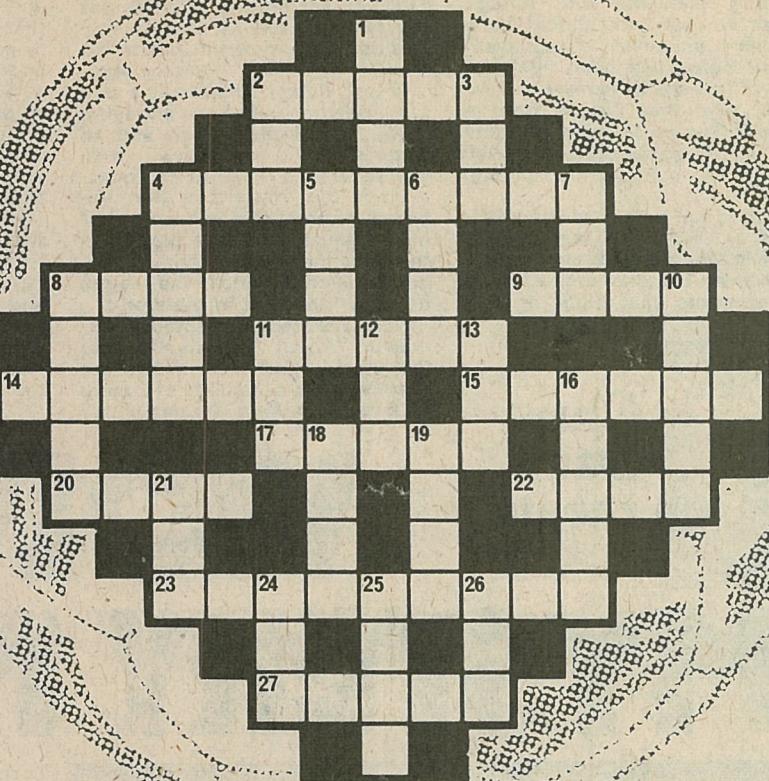
(2) Movement meant to deceive opponent. (5)
 (4) Manchester United striker. (3 & 6)
 (8) — Park, Dundee United's ground. (4)
 (9) Strike too painfully. (4)
 (11) Tender for acceptance or refusal. (5)
 (14) Dave —; England centre-half. (6)
 (15) London club originally known as Clapton —. (6)
 (17) Relay changed to make sure one is not late for training! (5)
 (20) — End Park, Dunfermline Athletic's ground. (4)
 (22) A hard struggle conceals the Irish club. (4)
 (23) Arsenal midfield player, born in Doncaster. (6 & 3)
 (27) — Mill; ground of The Stags. (5)

DOWN

(1) — Zoff, famous Italian goalkeeper. (4)
 (2) It could be a transfer one, for instance. (3)
 (3) & (8) Famous goalscorer who retired in 1945 and later managed Reading

and Chelsea. (3)

(4) David —; former Norwich City and Wales. (5)
 (5) — Shaw of Bristol City. (4)
 (6) Pat —; Arsenal defender. (4)
 (7) Short forename of Footballer of the Year, 1952/53. (3)
 (8) See 5. (5)
 (10) Billy —; West Ham defender. (5)
 (11) Goldst--- Ground, Brighton. (3)
 (12) — Park, Motherwell's ground. (3)
 (13) — Greaves; Bolton Wanderers midfield player. (3)
 (16) — Stadium; Rangers home. (5)
 (18) ---ie Gemmill, Birmingham. (4)
 (19) — Brady transferred from Arsenal to Juventus. (4)
 (21) Droop, as a broken crossbar. (3)
 (24) Sir — Ramsey, former England manager. (3)
 (25) — Sabella of Leeds United. (4)
 (26) One of Manchester United's colours. (3)

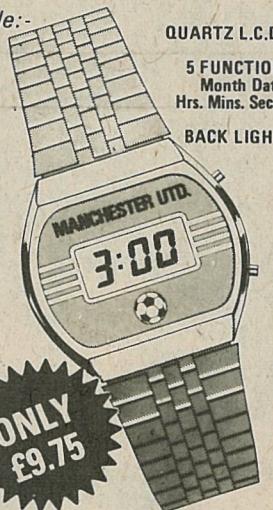


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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

BY BILL DAY

It is rare indeed for the jocular Alan Mullery to scowl. He was full of fun in his playing days for Fulham, Tottenham and England and has slipped into management as if born to the job.

But there was a distinct frown creasing the normally affable face when one Sunday newspaper suggested that his beloved Brighton would finish in the bottom six of the First Division this season.

And so confident is the Goldstone Ground boss that he is prepared to put money where his mouth is if the critics choose to write off the most expensive side ever assembled at Brighton.

Mullery states categorically that his team will claim a place in the top six.

The first programme of the season, produced for the opening game against Wolves, carried an ironic message on the inside front cover stating: "We'll get you into Europe."

The message was published to support sponsors British Caledonian, but it also carried the hopes of Brighton's fans this season.

Brighton have reached heights already well beyond the dreams of most of their supporters. Mullery has spent £1 million on players he thinks will carry the club into competition against Bayern, Real, Ajax

and the other European giants.

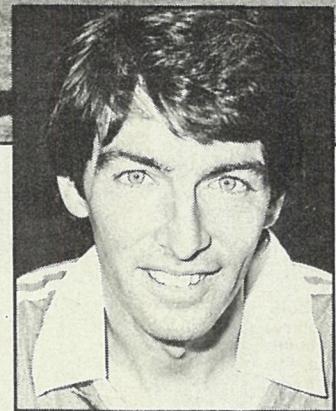
He has been shrewd in his transfer dealings, careful not to bust a cash flow of piggy-bank proportions in comparison with others.

Michael Robinson, the club's £400,000 signing from Manchester City, has added bite and thrust to a forward line often listless last season. He is an old-fashioned centre-forward, hustling, driving forward and shooting on sight.

"He's a Bobby Smith," remarked Mullery, reflecting on the former Spurs striker whose aggression blended so well alongside the silken skills of Jimmy Greaves.

Allison played me all over the place, even wide on the right sometimes. I'm no winger, I'm a striker and that's where Brighton

Skipper Brian Horton has the experience to guide Brighton to a top six placing this season.



Gordon Smith

BRIGHTON heading for EUROPE

Manager Alan Mullery has brought an air of optimism to the Goldstone Ground after guiding Brighton up from the Third Division.



play me," says Robinson.

If Robinson is muscle and beligerence allied to great pace, Gordon Smith, the lean attacking midfield buy from Rangers, is the epitome of grace.

He took time to settle to the more frenzied pace of the First Division but now he has adjusted Brighton's attacks are more progressive.

He did well on the club's summer tour but was floundering in the first-half of his League debut against Wolves.

But the tackles were less frequent after the interval as Smith made several sinuous runs scoring a goal in the process.

Debut

Ray McHale, Mullery's other major signing, has made his debut in the First Division at 29. He joined Brighton from Swindon for £25,000 and Andy Rollings in exchange.

He busies himself Gemmill-like in midfield and should lend considerable experience to Brighton's attacking formation once he strikes an understanding with Neil McNab, Smith and Brian Horton.

The club's line-up is unlikely to bear the name of Mullery's fourth signing in the early stages of this season.

The club's coaches reckon Moshe Gariani will take at least four months to adapt before he is tried in the First Division, but more than one of the experts is confident Gariani, an aggressive midfield player who runs hard at defences, will be pushing McNab

hard if the former Bolton player fails to produce the goods.

Brighton are seeking more than consolidation this season. They want to compete. The new players have already struck a fine understanding with Brighton's more established players.

Mullery said he has never seen safer handling from Graham Moseley after the goalkeeper had foiled Wolves.

John Gregory and Gary Williams give Brighton more options when they go forward, and Steve Foster and Mark Lawrenson are two of the most polished centre-backs in the country.

Andy Gray, Wolves dynamic Scottish striker, has never scored a goal when Foster has marked him.

They were involved in a series of bone-jarring clashes with Foster emerging the clear winner in the first game.

Lawrenson's acceleration, control and know-how places him in David O'Leary's class and Peter Ward would win a place in any forward line even though he is infuriatingly inconsistent.

Brian Horton is one of only two players to remain on the Albion staff who were at the club when Mullery took over.

No midfield player works harder and there is not a more enthusiastic captain in the First Division.

Brighton's desire to shed their old-fashioned image was evident in the opening game when the fans broke into a chorus of 'Sussex by the Sea' the club's signature tune, only to be confounded by a public address system serenading the team on to the pitch to the thumping beat of 'Gonna fly now', the theme music from the film 'Rocky'.

The times they are a changing at happy, ambitious Brighton . . .

BRIG



BACK ROW (left-to-right): Paul Clark, Gary Williams, Mark Lawrenson, Gary Stevens, Peter Suddaby, Peter Sayer.

MIDDLE ROW: Glen Wils (asst. manager), Moshe Moseley, John Phillips (coach), Mike Yaksley (pl)

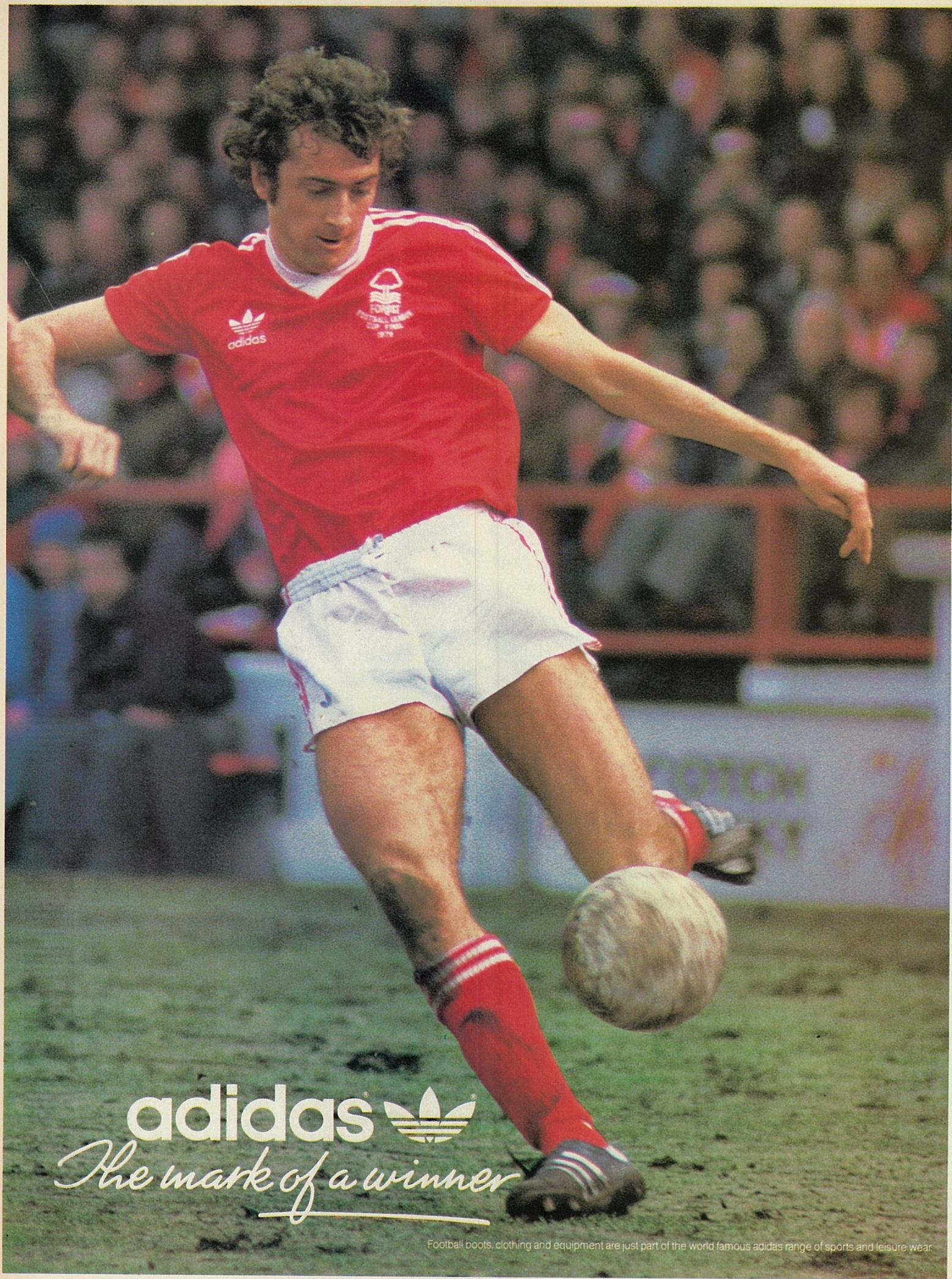
HTON



on (kit manager), Ken Crags
Gariani, Neil McNab, Graham
Steve Foster, George Aitken
sio).

FRONT ROW: Peter Ward, Gordon Smith, Brian Horton,
Alan Mullery (manager), John Gregory, Gerry Ryan, Ray
McHale.

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This week's Star Letter comes from Paolo Mori of Glasgow, who wins our Special Prize of £10. He writes:

WHO'S AN ANIMAL?

I read with interest the many letters written in to your magazine complaining about the disgraceful behaviour of the Italian players during the European Championship, branding them "animals" and "assassins", Benetti and Gentile taking the brunt of it.

Why is it then when players like Antognoni, Bettiga, and Causio take any "stick" which happens frequently, nobody ever points it out.

As soon as an Italian player steps out of line he's branded an "animal".

If you watch football regularly in this country some of the fouls are incredible, but it seems to be accepted as fairly normal. Is this because the English are allowed to do this and the Italians aren't?

It's about time people started taking notice of them for their high skill instead of being more keen on the brutal aspects. Which, incidentally, every country adopts when the right situation arises. Yes, England as well.

• And Scotland — and everyone else. The Italians even criticised Belgium for being defensive and cynical against them in the European Championship!

Programme prices

I think the prices we have to pay each week to get in to see a match or for a programme are ridiculous.

We all realise that prices must rise with inflation, but surely not at the rate that they are doing.

Down at Stoke's Victoria Ground the price of a programme has doubled in the last three years from 15p to 30p.

NICK RYLES,
ASHLEY.

• Makes you realise what good value SHOOT is!

Cattle market?

Fervent Arsenal supporter as I am, I can only feel ashamed and bewildered over their recent bizarre decisions in the transfer market.

I have learnt to respect Terry Neill's judgment in this field over the years, (e.g. Pat Jennings), but the Clive Allen deal is a sad blow and destroys the original point of the game: enjoyment.

Surely an expenditure of £1m plus needs research, months of research, and careful study?

Record defeat

I'd like to know Liverpool's worst-ever defeat!

TED POULPOULOS,
GREECE

• Why, Ted — are there a lot of Everton supporters in your country?

Seriously, though, it was a hefty 9-1 Second Division wallop by Birmingham on 11th December, 1954.

The winners that day, incidentally, went on to gain promotion at the end of the season — while Liverpool couldn't finish higher up than halfway in 11th place.

World Cup birthday

Was any important football match played on 30th July, 1966 — the day I was born?

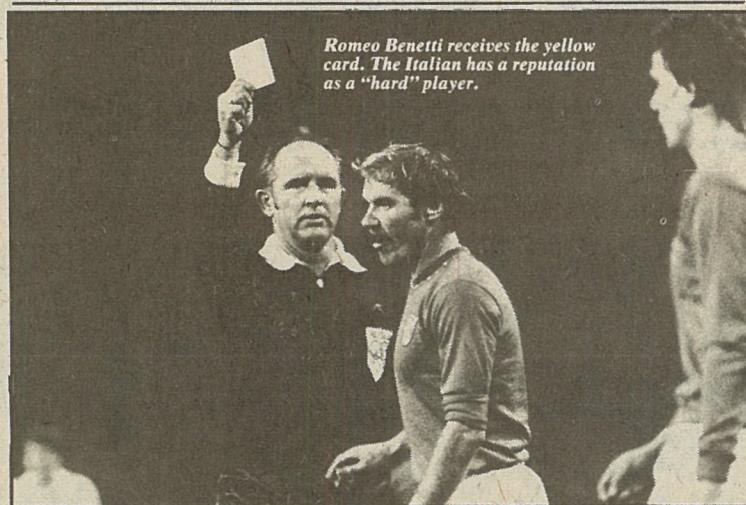
STARROS TAKI,
CYPRUS

• Over here, we like to think so, Starros — it was the date of that year's World Cup Final.

And a team called England happened that sunny afternoon to beat West Germany 4-2!

GOAL-LINES

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Romeo Benetti receives the yellow card. The Italian has a reputation as a "hard" player.

Agreed, like Nottingham Forest, they admitted their mistake, but has no one any concern for Clive Allen, at 19? Money isn't everything. As an Arsenal supporter of long standing, I have never been more ashamed of my club.

A transfer market or a cattle market?

SIMON GIFFORD,
WATFORD.

• Not even beef is that expensive.

Two wrongs

I think it is absolutely ridiculous if a player gets sent-off for doing two offences worthy of two yellow cards.

I reckon a player should get sent-off only if he has done something worthy of a red card.

Never ever should a player get sent-off for two yellow card offences. Thanks to this silly sending-off, he could miss the F.A. Cup Final!

JEREMY TILSON,
NUTHALL

• Refs don't make the rules; only uphold them. It's the Laws that need changing.

Ask the Expert

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Liverpool's hatful

In a top-class game, have all the players, apart from the goalkeeper, scored?

ROBERT BARRON,
ABERDEEN

• Can't find any record of such a feat,

Brady blunder

Liam Brady has blundered. The worst Italian club Brady could have gone to is Juventus. During the 1950's Juventus were one of the greatest teams in the world due mainly to their brilliant foreign stars Charles and Sivori.

Today's Juventus supporters will expect Brady to be as brilliant as those two former greats, which is an impossibility, because Brady is not as talented.

Roberto Bettega has already called Brady the best foreign player ever to play in Italy.

This false statement will add to Brady's problems because he will have to outdo not only Charles and Sivori but also Greaves, Law, Altafini, Jair, Schnellinger, Haller and a host of other players.

Good luck, Liam, you'll need it.

E. LAWRENCE,
GREENWICH.

• One thing's for certain: Brady will have to improve on his Arsenal form of 1979/80.

Right to speak

Everton manager Gordon Lee slapped a ban on four of his players from talking to the Press.

P.F.A. chairman Gordon Taylor immediately called the ban "Victorian".

Why should a handful of unsettled, out-of-form players be allowed to unsettle the rebuilding job Mr Lee is doing, and doing well?

IAN CAMPBELL,
LIVERPOOL.

• Why should footballers not have the right of freedom of speech?



Gordon Lee

Pen-Pals

I'm a 14-year-old Danish boy and I'd like to write to anyone in Manchester. My favourite team is Manchester United.

NICHOLAJ WARMING,
GYVELVEJ 10,
8464 GALTEN,
DENMARK.

I'm a 13-year-old boy and would like a pen-pal in England who supports Ipswich Town.

PETER KELLY,
27 COONGAN ST,
GOLDSWORTHY,
6723 W.A.
AUSTRALIA.

I'm a 15-year-old English guy living in the USA. I'd like to correspond with fellow football fanatics.

PHIL BROCKETT,
148 GREENWOOD ROAD,
BRICKTOWN,
N.J. 07823,
U.S.A.

Robert — and, frankly, it does seem a bit unlikely.

But I can certainly remember a game in which nine players scored — and that was when Liverpool played the Norwegian side, Stromsgodset, in the European Cu-Winners' Cup in September, 1974.

Then, when Liverpool won the first-leg at Anfield 11-0, their goals came from Lindsay (pen.), Boersma (two), Thompson (two), Heighway, Cormack, Hughes, Callaghan, Smith, and Kennedy.

I reckon — in top-class soccer, any way — that might take a lot of beating.

Scorer Beal

Can you tell me if my uncle, Phil Beal, ever scored a League goal for Tottenham?

ALAN BURBERRY,
CO. DURHAM

• Yes, he did, Alan — just one — early on in a splendid career which saw him play no less than 333 League games for Spurs.

But, remember, your uncle was a tough-tackling defender — paid to prevent, rather than score, goals — and that was a job he performed pretty successfully in his long spell at White Hart Lane, ending in 1975.

SHORT PASSES

• Liverpool manager Bob Paisley was born on 23rd January, 1921. (PETER HUGHES, Wirral)

• George Best scored six goals in Manchester United's 8-2 F.A. Cup Fifth Round win at Northampton in February, 1970. (SAM SCOURBROS, Australia)

• The first-ever Football League game of Birmingham (then known as Small Heath) was a 5-1 Second Division win over Burslem Port Vale on 3rd September, 1892. (DAVID BENNETT, Solihull)

• Roger Morgan, Rodney Marsh, and Mark Lazarus scored Q.P.R.'s goals in their 1967 League Cup Final 3-2 win over West Bromwich. (JONAH JALHANER, Sweden)

• The Scottish League's Premier Division was started in the 1975-76 season. (T. HAGER, Barnsley)

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KILMARNOCK winger Bobby Houston was still at primary school when his former Partick Thistle colleague Jackie Campbell was playing in the Firhill first team.

"When you come to mention it, I can't remember a Partick Thistle team without Jackie Campbell in it," says Houston of Scottish soccer's Bionic Man.

"I enjoyed playing alongside Jackie in my six years at Firhill. He used to give me hell sometimes. Honestly, I remember one match where I thought he was going to have a right go at me!"

"I admit I hadn't been playing too well. I was trying hard, but

Jackie Campbell - Thistle's rock

nothing was coming off for me.

"Jackie had been encouraging me all afternoon, but his fuse must have blown when I mis-hit a cross into the side-net. He told me what he thought of me in no uncertain manner, but, afterwards, it was all forgotten.

"He's a great professional, a real 100 per cent grafta. He has been overlooked so far as the headlines go, and I don't think he has ever received anything like the credit he certainly deserves, but the players in the game respect him.

"I look forward to my tussles with Jackie now that I have moved on to Kilmarnock. He is a hard, tough defender who lets you know he is on the field, but there is never any dirty stuff from him."

"He is hard, but strictly within the rules of the game. It's a pity he has played all his career at Partick Thistle in the shadows of Celtic and Rangers in Glasgow."

"If he had played at either Parkhead or Ibrox everyone would know the name of Jackie Campbell."



Campbell has remained loyal to Partick Thistle and he says: "They were the first team to give me a chance, so obviously I want to repay them for their faith in me."

"The Firhill fans have always been good to me and although I have never won the honours of a Celtic or Rangers player I don't envy them on little bit."

"I enjoy playing for Thistle and I hope to continue doing so for as long as possible. I'll know when it is time to give up. It will be a wrench, but the day I can't give Thistle everything I have then I will bow out."

Campbell was the rock upon which Celtic crashed in that unforgettable League Cup Final in '72 when Partick thrashed their illustrious neighbours 4-1.

'Confidence'

"A day I'll always treasure," says Campbell. "No one outside Firhill gave us a chance. In fact, some people were even taking odds on us turning up. However, we had confidence in ourselves and we knew we could do it."

That was the high spot of Campbell's career and it was marvellous to hear the Celtic fans that afternoon cheering Thistle when they went up to take the Cup. It was their first major victory in 50 years.

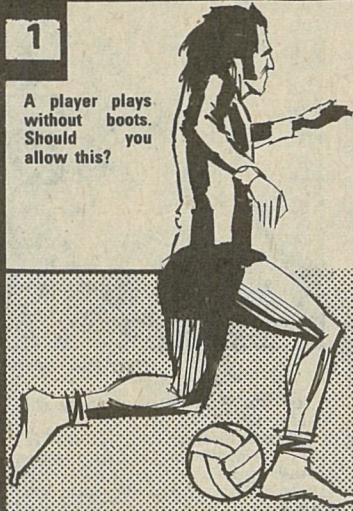
It would be nice to think that Jackie Campbell and his Firhill colleagues could sample another dazzling day of triumph such as that. With Campbell the Rock around it's always possible.

YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

1

A player plays without boots. Should you allow this?

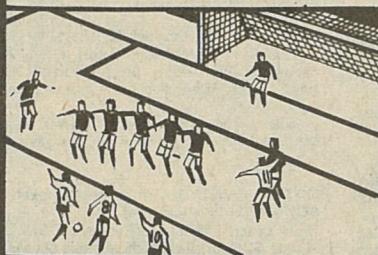


2

The ball is on its way into goal when a defender tries to stop it with his hand, but only succeeds in deflecting it into the goal. Should you award (a) a penalty or (b) a goal?

3

A free-kick has been awarded to the attacking side, but the defending players are encroaching and are only five yards away. Should you caution the players?

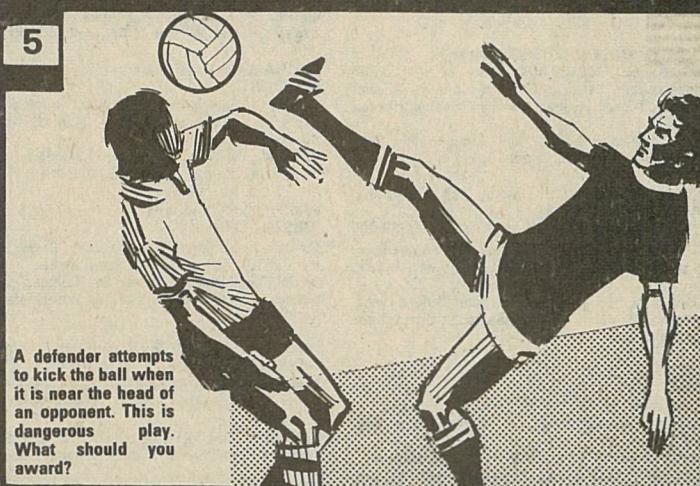


4

Can any action be taken against two players who are wearing the same number on their shirts?

5

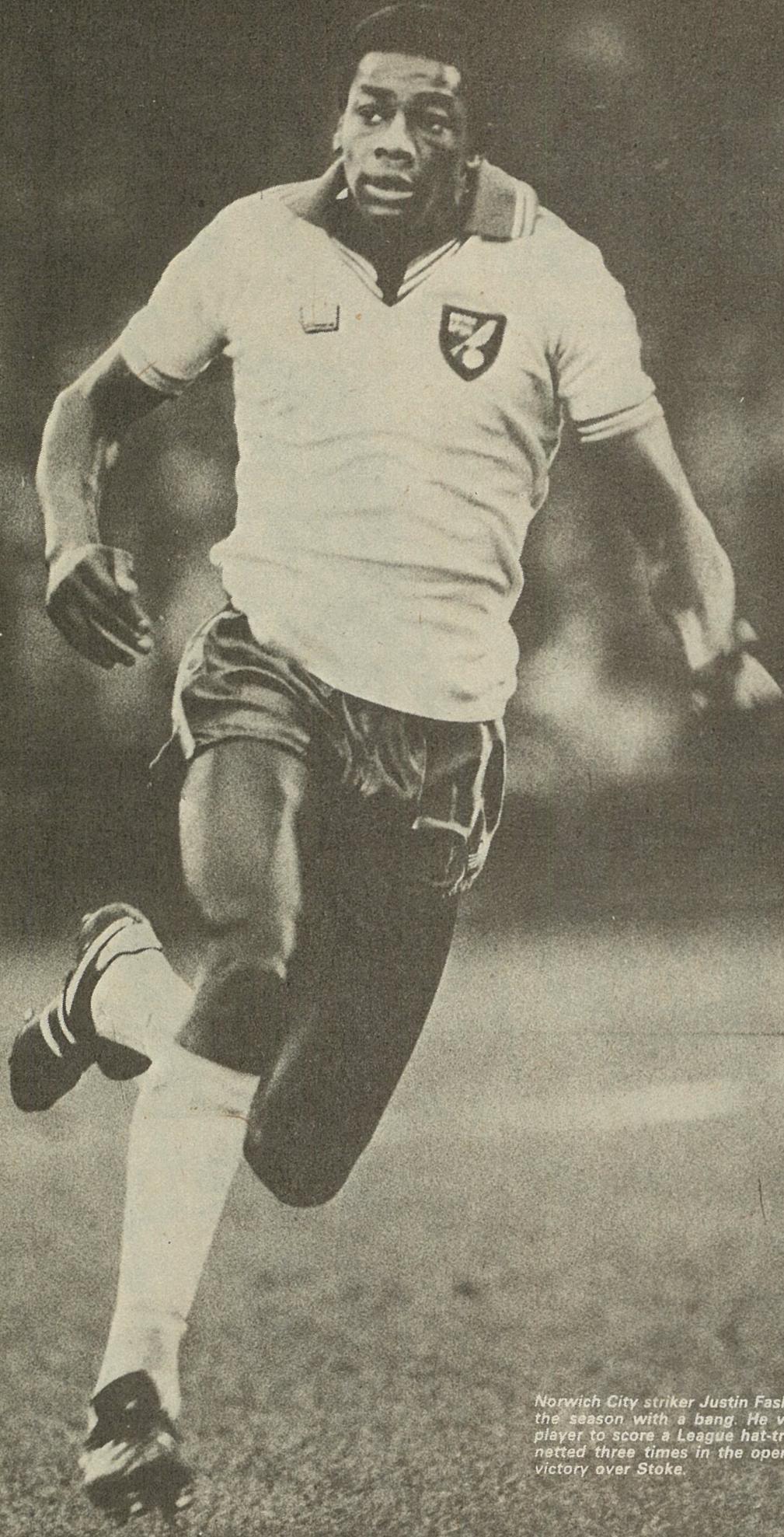
A defender attempts to kick the ball when it is near the head of an opponent. This is dangerous play. What should you award?



ANSWERS

1. NO. 2. A goal (b). 3. Yes. There is far too much of this going on. It was interesting to speak to players like Gerry Armstrong, Glenn Hoddle and David Davies during Super-leagues competition. They all agreed it was done because referees were not doing anything about it. We aim to do something this season. 4. No. 5. An indirect free-kick.

1. NO. 2. A goal (b). 3. Yes. There is far too much of this going on. It was interesting to speak to players like Gerry Armstrong, Glenn Hoddle and David Davies during Super-leagues competition. They all agreed it was done because referees were not doing anything about it. We aim to do something this season. 4. No. 5. An indirect free-kick.



Norwich City striker Justin Fashanu started the season with a bang. He was the first player to score a League hat-trick when he netted three times in the opening day 5-1 victory over Stoke.

AN ANNUAL SPORTS FEAST

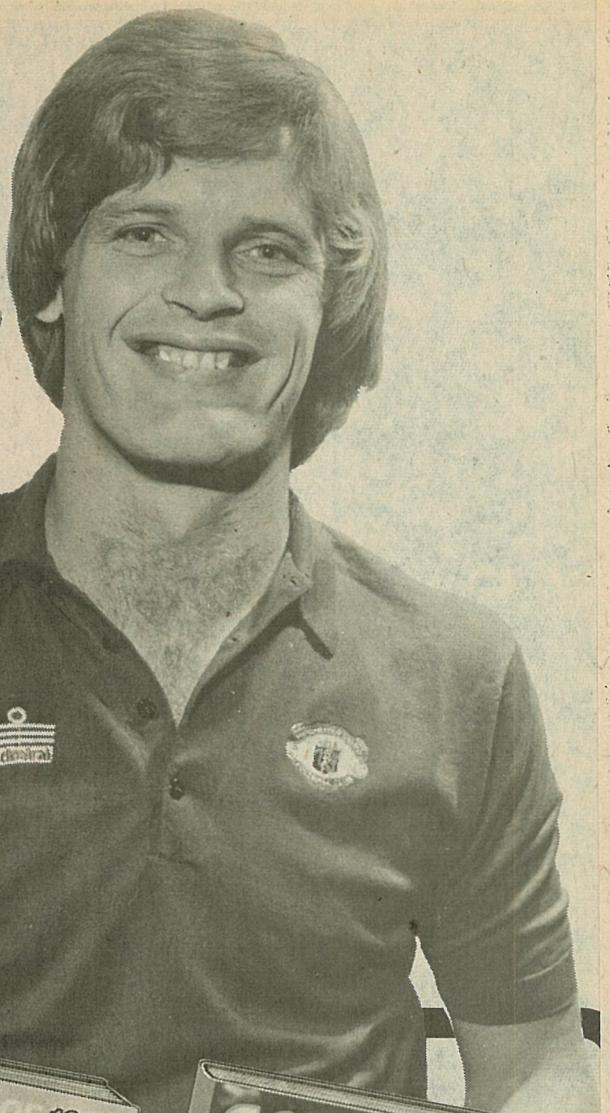
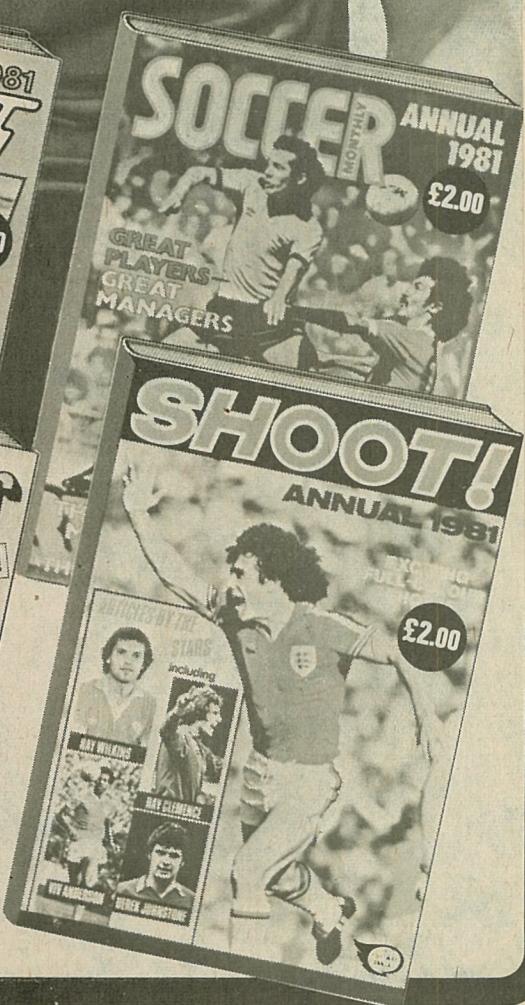
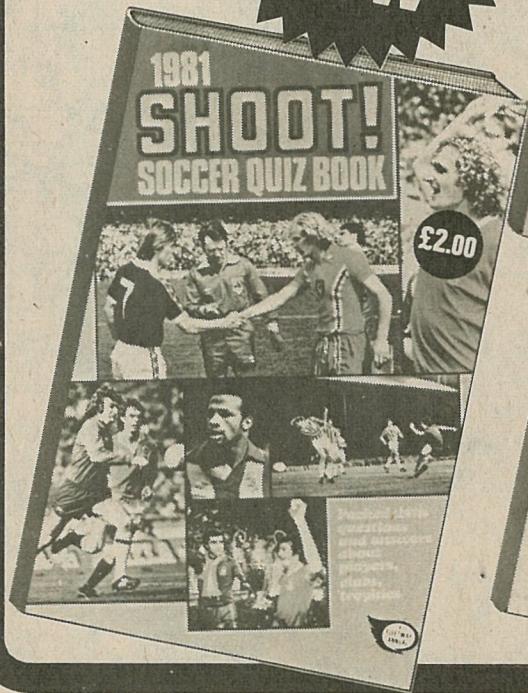
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'I'll learn a lot from Lee'

SAYS GEOFF NULTY

FOR the first time in 15 years, Geoff Nulty didn't start the new season as a player.

Instead, he is on the other side of the fence, coaching the multi-million pound stars of Everton.

It's a whole new world for the former Goodison player whose career was ended by a tackle from Liverpool's Jimmy Case in a derby game last season.

Nulty's injured knee forced him to quit, but Everton boss Gordon Lee quickly brought him in as his right-hand man.

'Worst Time'

"It's a new experience which I'm enjoying, but it would be wrong to say so I'm not missing the thought of playing this season," says Nulty.

"The worst time was when pre-season training began. The grass was green, everything was newly-painted and everybody was raring to go."

"But at least I'm still involved in football, even if it's not as a player. I'll always be grateful to Gordon Lee for giving me the opportunity to coach."

In fact, Lee marked down Nulty as coaching material during their

days together at Newcastle when Lee was the manager and Nulty his captain.

Given a free transfer by Stoke as a youngster, Nulty played for Burnley in a variety of positions. But it was at Newcastle where his career blossomed as Lee took the North East club to Wembley and into Europe via a fifth place in the First Division.

Always an honest, tidy player either at the back or in midfield, it was Nulty's ability to inspire and help players around him — particularly the younger ones — which impressed Lee.

It was not long before they were together again at Goodison, and Nulty was a regular member of the first team squad before the Case tackle.

It was an incident which caused criticism at the time, but not from

Nulty. Any bitterness has always been kept well hidden and today he still prefers to look forward instead of back.

"At the moment, I'm learning all the bits and pieces which make up the job of running a football team and all the different pressures it brings," he says.

"I'm under no illusions about the job, but the players have helped me settle in. Perhaps it would have been a bit easier to have accepted Carlisle's offer of management, when I didn't know any of the players, instead of dealing with lads I played with last season.

"But so far, it's working out well, although I might have a different answer later in the season if we've lost a few games. Right now, there's tremendous optimism and enthusiasm about our prospects."

Apart from helping Lee with

coaching the first team, Nulty also has responsibility for youth development and scouting.

"In the past, Gordon Lee has perhaps concentrated his efforts on the first team, but this is a big club and he realised there was a need for somebody who could look at the wider picture.

"But that's not a criticism of him. He's a fine manager, one of the best. If I'm going to learn about management and coaching, I couldn't have a better man to teach me," said Nulty.

SIRREL'S DOUBLE

IT'S not easy to live in the shadow of European Champions Nottingham Forest... but it's something that Notts County boss Jimmy Sirrel and his players have accepted philosophically.

Sirrel knows he will never be able to spend £1 million on a player, so he prefers to ignore Forest's big transfer deals.

The County manager, with a broad Scottish accent, has resigned himself to the bargain deals at the lower end of the market. But in clinching the signature of Eddie Kelly and Rachid Harkouk in the close season, Sirrel could still be on to a winner.

"I waited a long time to get these players," he says. "They were even signed in my absence, as I was away on holiday at the time. Some people may have thought it odd that I wasn't present but I had to have a break sometime and I couldn't wait until the deals were signed and sealed. After all, they could have broken down at the last minute."

"It's easy to get envious of Forest and their multi-million pound deals but I choose to forget about them. My job is to manage County and to get the best from the resources available."

The signing of Kelly from Leices-

ter City and Harkouk from Q.P.R. in a double deal costing the club about £85,000, is a shrewd move by County.

The experienced Kelly, a member of Arsenal's League and Cup double winning side of 1971, skippered Leicester City at the end of the last season as they pushed for the Second Division Championship. And Sirrel hopes Kelly can do the same kind of job for Notts County as he did for Leicester.

'Reputation'

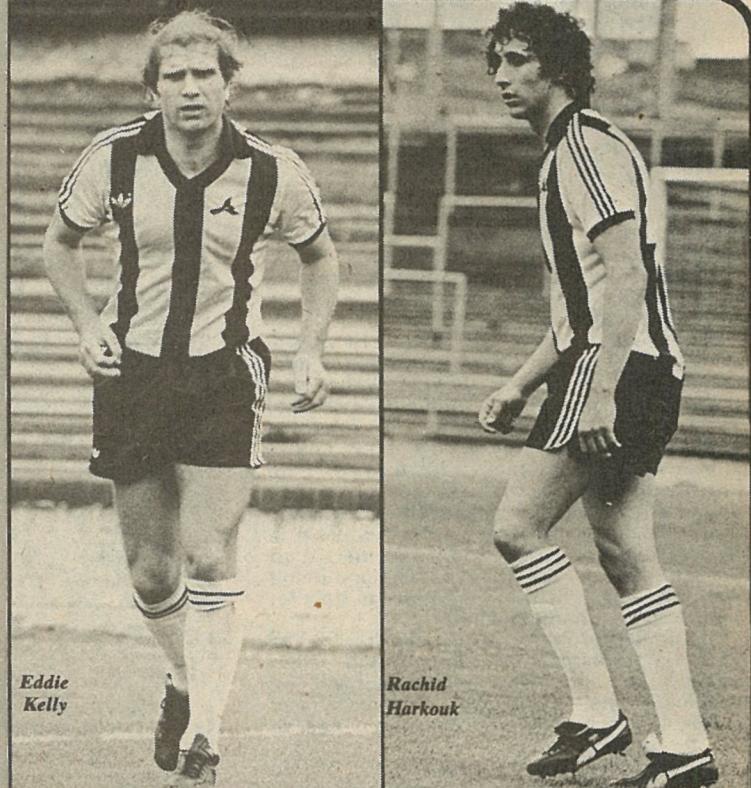
"It would be great if we could achieve the same success with Kelly's help. He's a solid player with a reputation for playing 42 games a season, and this is the kind of consistency I'm looking for."

"He'll give me more scope and competition in midfield, and some vital experience. But he'll get into the side through ability alone and not because he's seen plenty of action."

Harkouk is a versatile player, although it's my intention to play him up-front. He hasn't fulfilled his potential often enough yet, so we hope he produces his best form for

"I've already got three strikers,

Harkouk is going to create more competition, once he recovers



from his appendix operation."

Although he will not admit it, Sirrel is looking for a dramatic improvement in goalscoring, especially at home.

Apart from team changes, the ground has also had a facelift during the summer months. Although

the alterations are aimed at bringing Meadow Lane in line with strict safety regulations, they are intended to coincide with a dramatic change in the fortunes of County. Then Sirrel and his players will be able to walk away from the Forest shadow.

I HONESTLY believe that wingers have a crucial future in the game. Their survival is essential for the sake of our national game. Call me biased if you like, but I regard wingplay as that important. The day wingers totally disappear from the English football scene, will be a sad one, not just for me, but for anyone who cares for attacking football.

I believe one of the reasons for the recent slide towards negative football has been the disappearance of wingers. The game needs us as far as I'm concerned, to really pull defences apart and expose them.

How many times do you see rearguards exposed by attackers running through the middle? Hardly ever. But if you get a really quick winger reaching the bye-line, it can cause nightmares. They have to go out to take him on and that leaves gaps in front of the goal.

To me, the crossfield ball from a winger into the middle is one of the most dangerous in the game. At West Brom, it led to several goals last season and I really cannot see why managers and coaches have turned against wingers.

The older fans will certainly remember the great part George Best and Willie Morgan played in the success of Manchester United sides in the late 1960's and early 1970's.

They did it by going wide and giving their side so many different options. Yet you hardly ever see that happening these days, and even if you get a winger in some teams, he seems to be asked to go back and defend more than

opposing defenders with the basic skills of speed, dribbling and the ability to send in accurate crosses for his forwards.

But the very fact that Terry has not been able to settle in at so many clubs only emphasises the current disregard for the contribution a winger can make.

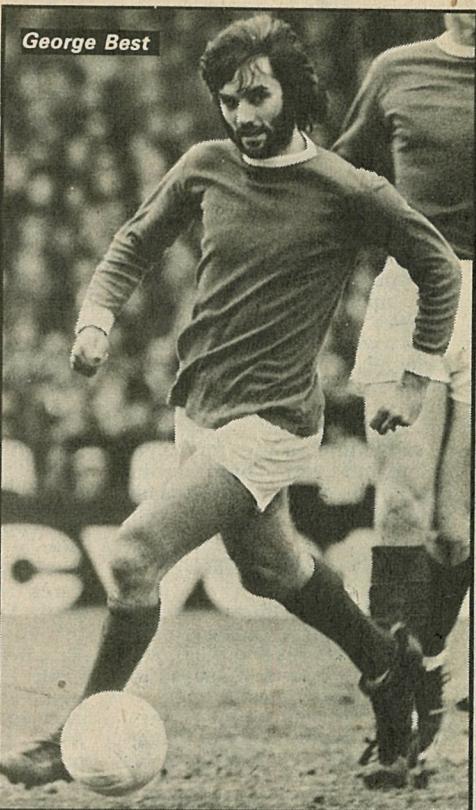
Now Terry is making some of his previous clubs regret their decision to let him go, and hopefully managers around the country will be starting to reconsider their views.

The big problem now is that managers expect their wingers to score as many goals as a centre-forward. Malcolm Allison always expected more goals from me at Manchester City, and could not see that I was making up for not scoring with the amount of chances I set up for others.

Altered

I believe this crazy trend against the use of wingers has to be altered. Teams have got to revert back to them — it's worked well in the past with them in a side, and I'm sure it would again.

The question is: can wingers survive? Let's say I'm optimistic because I've got to be. It really depends on the managers and coaches. They must start putting the emphasis much more on attack, and throwing a certain amount of caution to the winds. That has to happen to ensure the long term future of the wingman.



'For the sake of football WINGERS MUST SURVIVE' says Peter Barnes

actually attack.

To me, that's wrong ... managers should have the courage of their convictions and let a winger play where he's most dangerous — out wide.

I'm lucky. At West Brom, I have a manager (Ron Atkinson) who still believes in wingers and he lets me do what I'm best at. True, I'm expected to help out if we are under pressure and that's fair. But I'm not in the position some players find themselves.

Some teams have a crafty, modern way of playing. They put four players across the midfield and call the two outside men wingers.

That's rubbish — they're midfield players and no more. It's obvious as soon as they try to go wide ... they haven't got a clue about how to play as a winger. It's really a fraud to call them such for they're only midfield men.

Arsenal and England played without wingers in crucial games last season. Arsenal did it in the F.A. Cup and European Cup Winners' Cup Finals without a man out wide, England didn't even take a wingman in their party to Italy for the European Championship.

The similarity? Pretty obvious. Both sides had terrible problems breaking down tight defences, and both lost their chance of winning trophies. To me, the games England played and the Finals Arsenal lost cried out for a winger to turn the tide.

I'm not saying this because I think I should have gone to Italy with the England side. That's not for me to say, but I do think someone should have been included, probably Laurie Cunningham, to add some fresh pattern and ploy to the tactics.

If you take on a team and try to attack them, you're always going to hold an advantage over the side that is steeped in caution.

I must admit that I have been encouraged by what I have seen so far this season. At Sheffield Wednesday, Terry Curran has been terrorising



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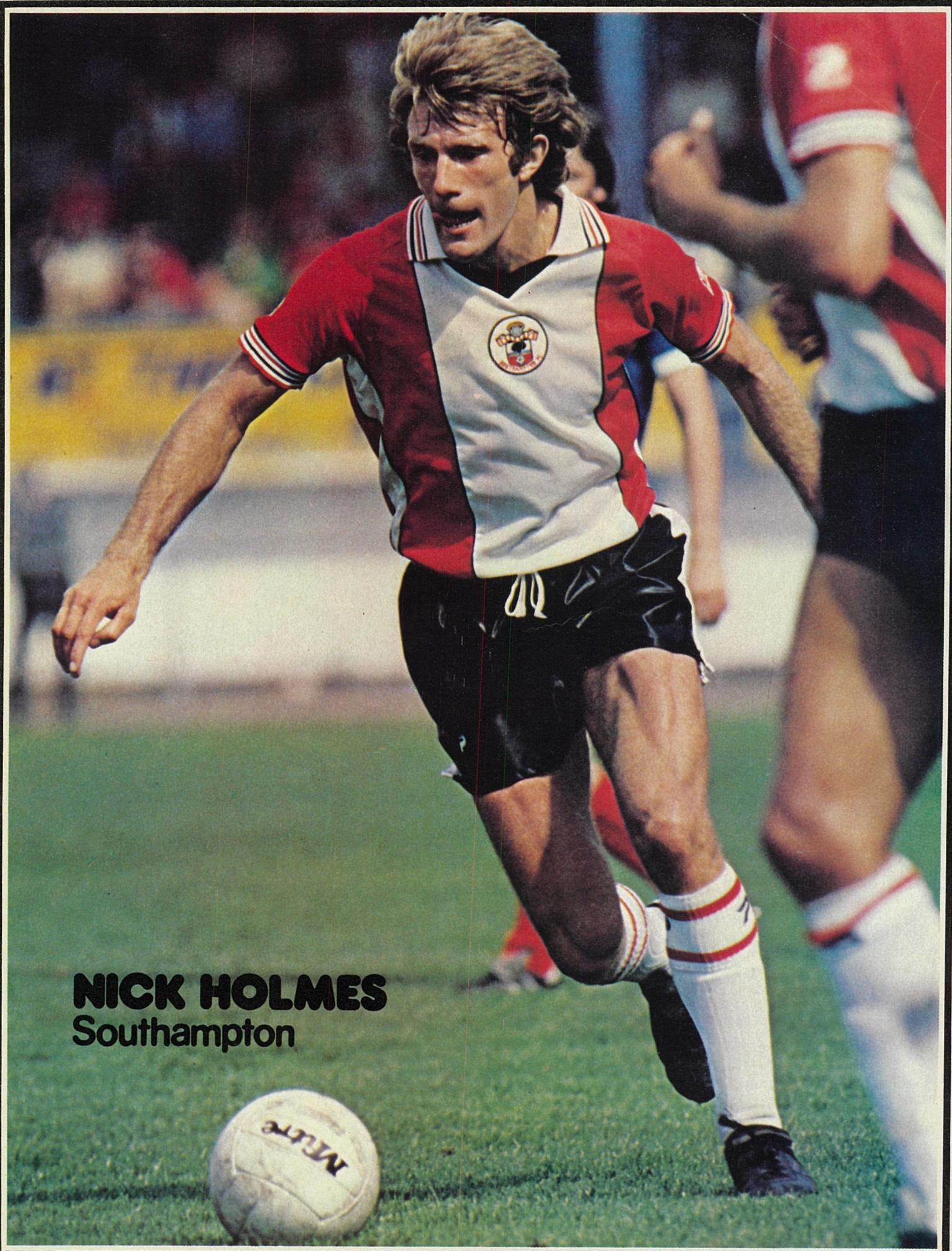


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Crystal Palace stars Peter Nicholas and Paul Hinshewood pursue Liverpool's Ray Kennedy.



NICK HOLMES
Southampton



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Players build up attacks in the normal way—passing, holding, shooting at goal or defending desperately to win

back possession. The attacking player presses one button at a time, then the defending player presses two buttons in an attempt to intercept and start a counter-attack.

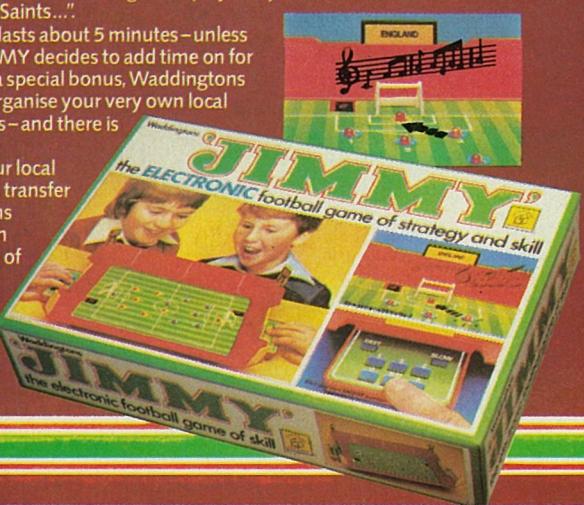
There are plenty of hazards too. Penalties are awarded for

time-wasting, and you could be penalised for shooting from too far out.

JIMMY is a compulsive game, yet easy to learn. Like all good football managers, you must out-think and out-play your opposition. Each time a goal is scored, it will show on the digital display and you will hear a burst of "Oh, when the Saints..."

A game lasts about 5 minutes—unless the referee JIMMY decides to add time on for stoppages. As a special bonus, Waddingtons will help you organise your very own local championships—and there is no entry fee!

Visit your local store soon and transfer to Waddingtons JIMMY. You can play the match of the day every day with JIMMY electronic football.





Passarella's message to Maradona

WHEN the Argentine F.A. officially announced that Diego Maradona is to remain in his native country until after the 1982 World Cup (see photo at Press conference), one of the people who was relieved at the decision was none other than Argentina's national team captain, Daniel Passarella. So much so that he immediately wrote a letter to Diego, which was published in Buenos Aires sports weekly *El Grafico*. Here's the gist of what he said to the 19-year-old superstar . . .

Dear Diego,

You're probably surprised by this unexpected letter, so I'd better explain. Like practically everybody in Argentina, I've been following all the details of your projected move to Barcelona — your doubts, your anxieties, the conflicts. Several times I wanted to talk to you about it, because I haven't forgot-

ten how you discussed it all with Leo Luque, "Tolo" Gallego and myself during our European tour. You kept saying you were confused and needed to stay cool. In the end I thought that there was already enough fuss without me butting in with my opinions.

But now you've made your decision I feel I can speak out freely — I'm happy that you're staying. And I'm not just saying that as captain of the national team — although your presence will naturally make us stronger and more confident — but as a friend who's shared the 1978 World Cup preparations, two European tours and a host of River Plate — Argentinos Juniors matches with you.

I'm happy because I know that you're at your happiest when surrounded by your family and your friends at home. I understand why it was a difficult decision to make,

because Barcelona were offering you a lot of cash and a new career full of possibilities — a lot of things that can really fill your head with ideas. I know, because the same thing happened to me a couple of years back when Washington Diplomats made a move for me. You did the right thing in thinking about your future. You've got nothing to feel guilty about. I wonder how many of the people who criticised you as a 'money grabber' would have been able to stay cool and take a carefully-considered decision like you did?

Here in Argentina you're going

to be happy. With your father (I often phone him because he's a great guy), your family, Jorge Cyterszpiler (who's a real friend in spite of what some people have said about his dealings as your agent) and all your other friends and colleagues in the game. You're not going to suffer by staying in Argentina. On the contrary, I think everyone here will continue to put great value on your skills, and that together we can all help Argentina retain the World title in Spain in 1982. I hope I'm right, and I wish you every happiness.

Daniel Alberto Passarella

News flashes

● SC Rapid, record champions in Austria but fallen on hard times, are now hoping to sign Czech inside-forward star Antonin Panenka

(Bohemians). But the deal which should become effective on January 1st, includes a clause that Rapid must also take Slavia's former international winger Frantisek Vesely, now 37. No Vesely — no Panenka.

● On a spying mission to watch U.E.F.A. Cup opponents I.A. Akranes, FC Cologne boss Karl-Heinz Hedergott was so impressed by centre-forward Kristinn Bjornsson as he scored a hat-trick against the U.B.K. that he is trying to persuade his chairman to make an offer for the Icelandic star.

● After three years as manager coach of Czech First Division club Brno, who he twice led to the U.E.F.A. Cup, former international star Josef Masopust has become manager of Belgian club FC Hasselt.

● Iceland's 1-1 draw away to Sweden in Stockholm was considered a moral

victory in Reykjavik and a triumph for new manager Helgi Danielsson. As usual, Asgeir Sigurvinsson (Standard Liege) was the Icelandic star, but centre-forward Gudmundur Thorbjornsson got the vital goal three minutes from the end.

● Johnny Rep (below) who played for Holland in the 1978 World Cup and was capped again in the European Championship, has been 'placed on the bench' and is now only a substitute for St Etienne.



● The oldest player in the Italian First Division this season is 38-year-old former AC Milan star Paolo Frustaluppi, who helped Unione Sportiva Pistoiese win promotion to the top flight last term.

● VfL Darmstadt are

raving about their new left winger, 22-year-old Glenn Jordan, and more than half the Bundesliga clubs fancy him. He joined Darmstadt from South Africa and cost nothing at all because the South Africans are barred from FIFA.

● Until the Italian authorities allow advertising on players' shirts, AC Milan have decided to follow the US fashion and each player now sports a shirt with his own name on it, with his number on the back.

● Fritz Fehling, a supporter of Munich 1860, has not missed a game, home or away for ten years. He estimates that travel by train has cost him more than £12,000 during this period.

● Kees Rijvers, the former Dutch international whose name has become almost synonymous with PSV Eindhoven in the last decade, is out of a job this season. Though he won Championships and Cups for PSV, it appears his methods and style of play did not meet with approval and his best offer, it is said in Holland, came from a club in Indonesia.

PROFIT FOR BORUSSIA



BORUSSIA Mönchengladbach have published their accounts for last season and thanks to their U.E.F.A. Cup campaign (they reached the Final) they are one of the few clubs in West Germany to show a profit.

The main items are:

- £777,000 Bundesliga match income
- £600,000 U.E.F.A. Cup profit
- £850,000 profit on transfers and shirt advertising

The big outgoings were:

- £2,100,000 Salaries and bonuses
- £255,000 Administration costs
- £95,000 Travel costs

This left a profit of £79,000 and it is clear from the £2 million that the Borussia players (Christian Kulik seen here) are being paid far more than the average English First Division player, for they have only 21 players on their books.

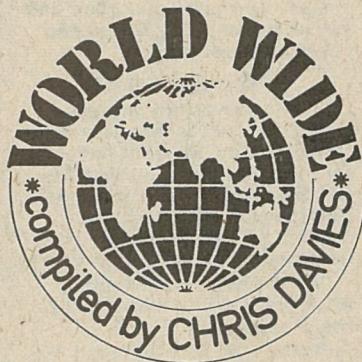
BARCELONA'S new manager, ex-national team boss Ladislao Kubala, has been giving the squad 'examinations' on their ball skills. Top marks went to international striker Quini (right), and in second place came . . . goalkeeper Pedro Arteta!

Player power in Portugal

● FC PORTO were pipped at the post by Sporting Lisbon in the Championship last season and dissatisfied with the outcome, club chairman Jorge da Costa resigned with manager coach Jose Pedro following suit.

The rest of the committee appointed Austrian Hermann Stessl from FK Austria (Vienna), but a row broke out in training and the players staged a strike.

Their objective is to get the club members to persuade da Costa back as chairman and Pedro as their boss. "We will not play for anyone else," they insist.



MIDNIGHT RUSH FOR TRANSFER

TWENTY FOUR hours before the transfer deadline in France, AS Nancy signed the 25-year-old Argentinian sweeper Fernando Zappio. Last season he played in Austria for Wacker Innsbruck.

Zappio claims he starred with Filol and Ligue for eight years with River Plate before going to Austria last season.

Zappio travelled from Vienna to Nancy on a night train, and at 9 am had a one hour training stint with the Nancy players.

Satisfied that he was a good player, Zappio had a medical check at 12.30 and then with the Nancy secretary, drove across Europe to complete the transfer in Vienna by midnight.



COVENTRY City are a club better known for selling players and balancing books than they are for winning trophies.

But for many Sky Blues fans the sale of Ian Wallace, last season's leading goalscorer, was hopefully the final chapter in a long catalogue of outgoing transfers. Already Gerry Daly has been signed for £300,000 from Derby.

Ironically, the departure of flame-haired Scottish international Wallace could well spur Coventry to their best season in years — even spark off the fuse to send The Sky Blues rocketing into Europe.

Optimism gone mad? Not one bit, as striker Garry Thompson takes up the story.

'Ambitions'

"I for one was not impressed with what Ian Wallace said about Coventry City. He went to Forest for £1 million claiming that The Sky Blues are not ambitious and that the club will never win anything. That just makes us all determined to prove him wrong."

"All the players at Highfield Road want to win things just as much as he does."

"I know full well that people think that Coventry are only in the First Division to make up the numbers. But nothing could be further from the truth. All the players are ambitious. We want success."

"As Chairman Jimmy Hill said: Ian Wallace doesn't own the word ambition. We all want to do well."

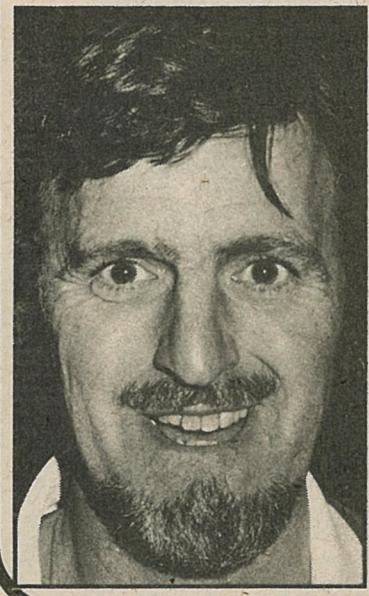
"Speaking as the season has just started and, at a time when we all start off level, we all look and think that this could be our campaign."

"At Coventry we're hoping that this could be the season where we all pull together and do our bit. The team spirit at the club is the best I've ever known."

'SKY BLUES WILL PROVE WALLACE WRONG' SAYS GARRY THOMPSON



Garry Thompson (left) was upset by comments made by former Coventry star Ian Wallace, now at Nottingham Forest (below, dark shirt).



Coventry Chairman Jimmy Hill has great ambitions for the club.

Thompson, 20, and a player of immense talent, continues: "At Highfield Road we've proved that on our day we can live with anybody. Last season we sent Liverpool packing — and we had seven youngsters in the side."

"We play great attacking football at home, but when we travel it's a different story altogether. We're under pressure from the word go, and that is something we are striving to put an end to."

"During the pre-season build up we played three matches in Scotland and experimented with a new 4-4-2 system. We did quite well. We beat Dumbarton 6-0, but

with due respect to Dumbarton, you can't judge them against a First Division side."

"Obviously, the idea is to have a more solid base at the back and work from there. If we are pushing for major honours, then we must cut out the heavy defeats we have previously suffered on opponents grounds."

"I'm not saying whether or not the new style will be put into operation — that's for the opposition to find out."

Thompson, who broke a leg during the 1978-79 campaign, returned to action for the final 16 games of last season, scoring six goals.





Ian McNeill

AFTER two encouraging attempts at promotion, will it be third time lucky? That is the question on the minds of Wigan Athletic supporters.

In two years the club has been transformed from an ambitious non-League outfit to effective Fourth Division promotion material.

Both seasons have seen Wigan on the fringe of promotion. Twice they have finished sixth.

Each time a poor start has cost them dearly. Their baptism year yielded just ten points in a dozen matches. Last season saw nine points during a similar dismal start. This time they lost their opening game 3-0 at home to Hartlepool.

Burnley.

But it is not through sentiment that McNeill returns to his native Scotland to plunder acquisitions.

"Players in Scotland come cheaper on the transfer market," he says. "With only eight or nine full-time clubs I can manoeuvre a lot more easily."

Proof of the theory was McNeill's capture of Scottish Under-23 international winger Ian Purdie, who was released by Motherwell when Wigan first gained League recognition.

Eighteen months later Purdie was on his way to Portsmouth for £20,000 — big money in

Third Time Lucky For Wigan?

But wily Scots manager Ian McNeill dismisses any feeling of 'deja vu'. "In the first year we were naive. It took time for us to adjust to the Football League."

"Last season we had a terrible run of injuries. Both goalkeepers, John Brown and Bob Ward, were out for long spells. Skipper Noel Ward and John Curtis missed most of the season with broken legs. We've always left ourselves with too much to do to get back."

During the close season McNeill has added four players to his squad. Three of them have been 'poached' from North of the border.

Bobby Hutchinson and Lawrence Tierney were free-transfer men from Hibernian. Striker Jim Oliver cost £3,000 from Montrose. David Tait, a teenage left-back, was released by

Fourth Division terms.

Wigan's new Chairman Freddie Pye, a scrap metal dealer, admits he could easily buy his way to promotion.

"I could do it in no time," he says. "On the surface it would look good. But we've got to be sensible, taking a step at a time."

The groundwork appears to have been done. An £80,000 sports complex is on the way. There have been costly ground improvements. And then there's the club's most prestigious signing, Bobby Charlton.

He is Pye's business partner and will play an active part at Springfield Park.

"The potential here is great," says Charlton, the former Manchester United and England star. "I want to play my part."

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Steve Coppell is Kelly's hero

JOHN Kelly, Tranmere's promising young striker, is determined to stay clear of the referee's yellow card this season.

"I have collected too many bookings," says the 19-year-old Bebington-born forward.

"It's something I really must cut out of my game."

"Last season was my first in the Fourth Division. Everything seemed faster and I was late going into a tackle. I was over enthusiastic. I lunged in when I shouldn't have done and ended up getting suspended. It cost me my first team place and I don't want that to happen again."

John, who is the son of Noel Kelly, the former Arsenal, Nottingham Forest and Crystal Palace player, arrived at Tranmere last September from West Che-

shire League club Cammell Laird.

"The manager, John King, asked me to go to the club for trials," he says. "I trained with them for a few weeks, then I signed. I was delighted, because at the age of 15 I was turned down by Wrexham.

"At the time I was very interested in rugby. I played a lot at school. But the whole point in playing football at Cammell Laird's was to try and make soccer my profession. Luckily I made the breakthrough.

"John King is very helpful and he bubbles with enthusiasm. He used to play for Everton, Tranmere and Port Vale, so in that respect he's got a wealth of experience to draw on."

Kelly has good reason to remember his full League debut, against Bournemouth a year ago. "We were hammered 5-0," he says. "Personally, I thought I played quite well, but the opposition were all over us."

"In all, I played 20 games and scored four goals, but I should have found the net far more times than I did. The goals just seemed to dry up on me. I'd scored a lot in the reserves, yet in the first team I was hitting the crossbar, having them disallowed and doing everything except scoring.

'Great'

"It seemed an eternity before I broke my duck and grabbed two against Rochdale. When the first one went in the feeling was absolutely great, especially after waiting so long."

"As yet, I haven't really settled into any definite forward position. I've played in the middle, on the left and on the right. I do a lot of running, which is my strong point."

John, who supported Everton in his younger days, puts Alan Warboys of Doncaster Rovers as the most difficult opponent.

"I have played against him twice," he says, "and it was tough going both times."

"I used to idolise George Best and Alan Ball. Now my hero is Steve Coppell."

"My great ambition is to emulate Steve. He started at Tranmere, now he is in the First Division and playing for England. But at the moment promotion with Tranmere will suit me fine."

"I think we will definitely improve on last season's League position. Our away record wasn't too bad, but at home we lost nine times, which is terrible."

"Obviously we live in the shadows of Liverpool and Everton, yet for me it's a big thrill to be playing at Tranmere. I'm thoroughly enjoying it."

NYTHING other than a victory over Norway in our opening 1982 World Cup qualifying section will be a disaster. If England should slip up and drop a point (or, dare I say it, even lose) the pressure would really be on us, even though two go through from the group.

Sadly, it's almost certain that I'll miss my second game under Ron Greenwood. The only time I've been absent is when we played the Republic of Ireland at Wembley in the European Championship; I came on as substitute against Wales last May.

As you've probably read in the papers, I've had a groin strain — the abductor muscle to be medically precise. I can't remember exactly when I did it originally. It's one of those injuries that has been with me for a while and I simply haven't had sufficient rest to shrug it off ... until now.

I played with it during the European Championship in Italy, although the slower pace of international football meant I was barely restricted.

Coach Bill Taylor noticed something was wrong and wondered why I wasn't using my left foot. I had a brief close-season before pre-season training began. Running was okay — it was when I twisted or kicked the ball that it hurt.

I started the season in the reserves and 'did' the groin in the very first minute of the game. It may sound funny to relate the instance, but I didn't laugh. The grass was longer than usual — reserve team

pitches aren't kept as well as the main stadiums' and I tripped over the ball.

I'll be naturally disappointed not to be available for selection because I know how eager the lads are to get the European Championship out of their systems.

Looking back to Italy, I can't come up with anything new, even in hindsight. We simply didn't perform to our potential, although that was the fault of the players, not Ron Greenwood. Perhaps we peaked too early ... we certainly didn't show the form we did against Spain or Argentina a few weeks before.

Organised

West Germany were the most efficient team in the competition; Belgium the best organised. I'd still say we were second only to the Germans despite losing to Italy.

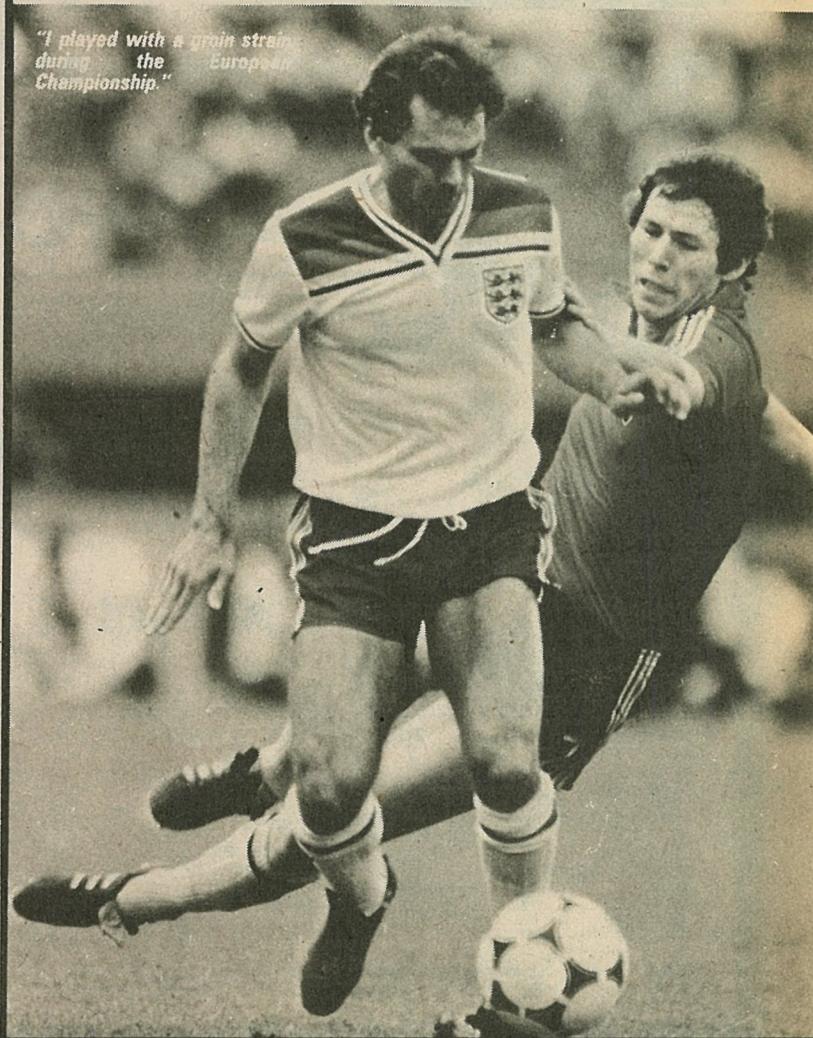
Against Norway I'll be looking for the sort of form we showed when we beat Argentina or when we won so well in Barcelona.

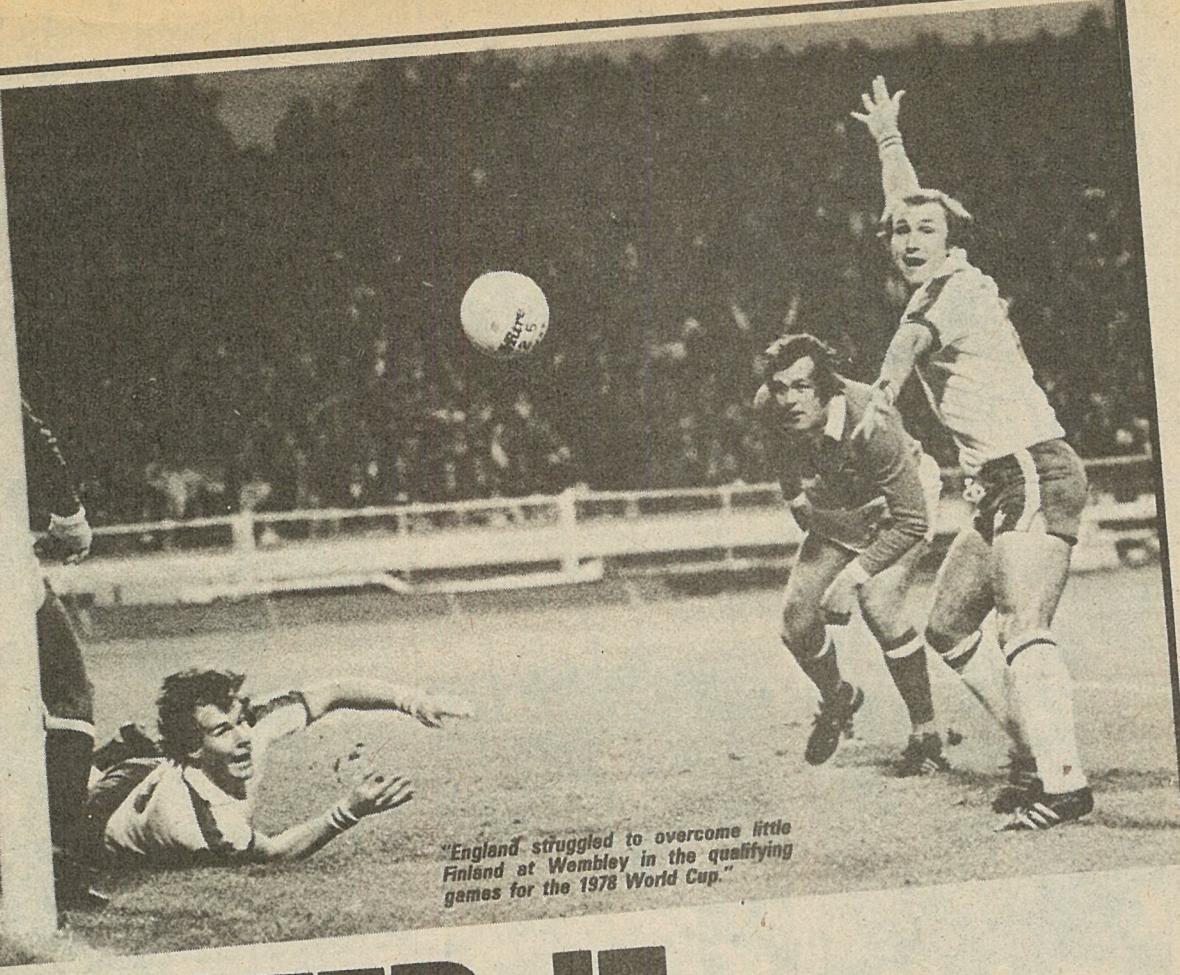
The European Championship has been forgotten and the overall standard was so disappointing that there was little to be learned from anyone. England must simply continue where we left off just before we went to Italy and build on that.

Despite being unfashionable, Norway will be no pushovers, even though big Gordon McQueen assured me this week that "you'll have no trouble."

Norway came very near to beating Scotland at Hampden Park two

"I played with a groin strain during the European Championship."





"England struggled to overcome little Finland at Wembley in the qualifying games for the 1978 World Cup."

'A DISASTER IF ENGLAND DON'T WIN'

Ray Wilkins
WRITES
FOR YOU

years ago and no England fan needs reminding how we've too often struggled against 'small' teams at Wembley.

I remember how fortunate we were to beat Finland 2-1 at Wembley in the 1978 World Cup qualifiers. Such sides come with a ten-man defence and can be difficult to break down. Some consider it a moral victory to lose only 2-0.

I'll be surprised if Norway adopt a positive attitude on Wednesday and I don't blame them. If they try to play an attacking game they'll probably be hammered. It'll be up to us to break them down.

Before the European Championship, England were becoming very much like Liverpool in that we never considered defeat. It isn't over-confidence, just an attitude built up after a run of success. Now we must hope for a good result and performance against the

Norwegians to get us back on the right road.

One player who could be in the England team is Glenn Hoddle, who on Saturday will be doing his best to help Spurs beat United at White Hart Lane.

People are going to expect great things from Glenn this season after scoring 22 goals from midfield last time round. I know he's started well, but it would be unfair to assume he'll score as many goals again.

I like Glenn both as a person and a player. I spent a fair amount of time with him in Italy.

Criticism

He roomed with Kenny Sansom, so wouldn't have had much opportunity to speak! Seriously, a criticism of Glenn has been that he doesn't work hard enough at his game. I can't say I've noticed that.

He was always willing to listen and learn and against Spain in Naples did as much as anyone. This season he'll be looking to establish himself in the England side, and if he isn't an automatic choice he must be 'first reserve' in midfield.

United and Spurs have had some memorable clashes in recent years, in the League, League Cup and F.A.

Cup. The one that stands out is the second-leg of the League Cup last year, when we trailed 2-1 after the first-leg, when Glenn scored one of his memorable volleyed goals.

United played superbly to win 3-1 at Old Trafford, where we led 2-0, only for Spurs to level the aggregate scores. We came back a second



"Garth Crooks has made a big difference up-front for Spurs."

time to win through.

White Hart Lane is one of my favourite away grounds because the atmosphere there is so intense. We have to think of Spurs as serious candidates for honours now, especially as their new strikers Steve Archibald and Garth Crooks have settled in quickly and made such a difference up-front.

Crooks has shown good control and finishing, while from what I've seen of Archibald on television he looks very sharp. The 'old hands' like Glenn, Terry Yorath, Steve Perryman and the two Argentines are playing as well as ever and Saturday's game should be another tremendous battle.

I trained with Spurs when I was about 11 for a few weeks and I also remember them beating Chelsea to send us down to Division Two a few years back. I'll be sorry to miss this weekend's game, but I'll definitely be back here in SHOOT in two weeks.

Until then,

TAKE A BREAK—IT'S

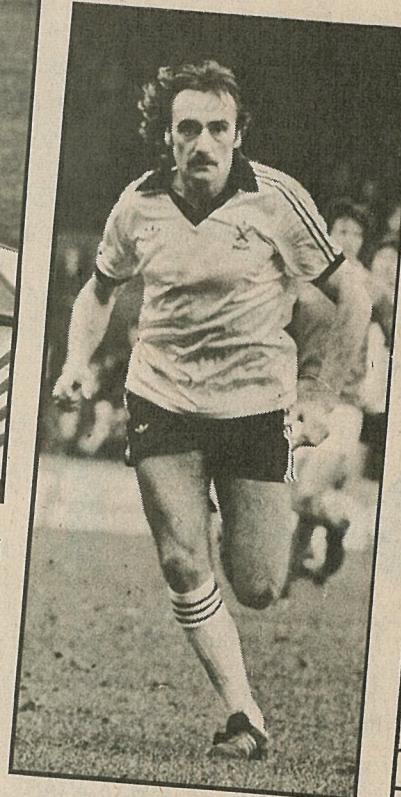
Quiz Time

PAST STARS...

1. Chesterfield-born Bob Wilson was an international for which country through the parentage rule?



2. Apart from being managers, what do John Bond (Norwich) (above), Jimmy Bloomfield (Orient), Malcolm Allison (Manchester City) and John Lyall (West Ham) have in common?



3. Colin Bell, whose career was ended prematurely through injury, starred for many seasons with Manchester City... but where did he begin his League career?

4. Which former Bolton Wanderers and England centre-forward earned the popular nickname of "Lion of Vienna" after scoring a spectacular goal against Austria in 1952?

...AND PRESENT

1. Chelsea's Tommy Langley was transferred recently to which other Second Division club?

2. Southampton began this season with a 2-0 win against Manchester City at The Dell... who scored their two goals?

TRUE OR FALSE?

1. Tottenham Hotspur became the first club this century to achieve the coveted League Championship and F.A. Cup double in 1961-62.

2. Nottingham Forest are the oldest club in the Football League.

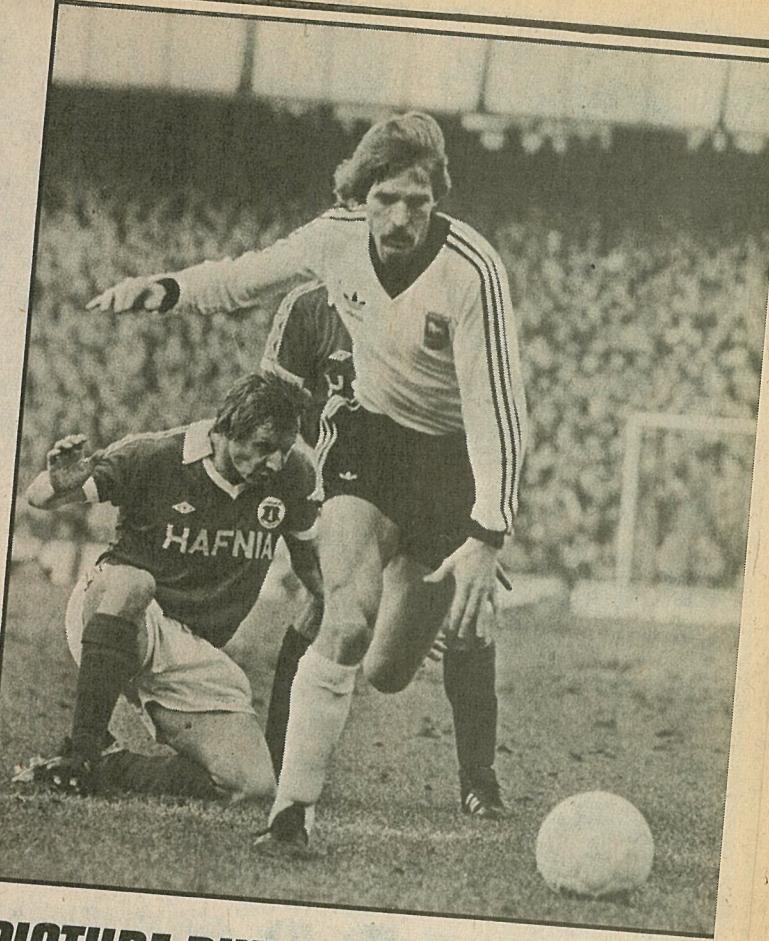
3. Coventry City were once known as Singers F.C.

4. Leeds United beat Arsenal 1-0 with a goal from Eddie Gray to win the 1972 F.A. Cup Final at Wembley.

ON THE BALL ANSWERS

ACROSS:— (2) Feint. (4) Joe Jordan. (8) Dens. (9) Stub. (11) Offer. (14) Watson. (15) Orient. (17) Early. (20) East (End Park). (22) Ards. (23) Graham Rix. (27) Field. DOWN:— (1) Dino. (2) Fee. (3) Ted.

(4) Jones. (5) Jeff. (6) Rice. (7) Nat Lofthouse. (8) Drake. (10) Bonds. (11) One. (12) Fir. (13) Roy. (16) Ibrox. (18) Arch. (19) Liam (Brady). (21) Sag. (24) Alf. (25) Alex. (26) Red.



PICTURE PUZZLE

Study the action photograph (above) taken during a clash between Everton and Ipswich last season, and see if you can answer the following questions about the game.

1. Can you identify the player in the light shirt chasing the ball?
2. And the one on his knees?
3. Where was the game played?
4. What was the final result?

TRACE-A-TEAM

The names of 11 Nottingham Forest players are spelt out in this frame in straight lines, either horizontally, vertically or diagonally and forwards or backwards. See how many you can spot. The first is indicated for you.

A	M	T	B	L	D	F	D	B	G	M	N
L	D	N	H	U	R	C	L	H	C	L	O
N	A	O	A	A	R	L	A	G	N	T	P
O	O	N	N	N	I	N	O	O	E	W	
P	C	C	D	E	O	V	S	P	R	O	A
R	I	M	N	E	E	T	S	B	A	S	B
S	M	O	S	R	R	L	L	D	H	B	G
D	L	P	N	E	M	S	R	I	O	P	R
B	Y	R	B	A	C	I	O	W	H	N	S
E	A	O	C	B	N	V	Y	N	C	S	N
F	R	T	L	H	D	E	D	B	G	O	E
D	G	S	M	L	R	S	L	L	I	M	L

ANSWERS:

ACROSS: 1. West Ham during their playing careers. 2. They all played for West Ham during their playing careers. 3. Nat Lofthouse. 4. Mike Channon. 3. Norwich. 4. Red. 5. Alan Clarke scored the only goal. 6. Eddie Gray. 7. They won it in 1960-61. 2. False — they won it in 1960-61. 1. False — Eddie Gray. 8. Hartford City. 9. Queens Park Rangers. 2. Mike Channon. 3. Norwich. 4. Red. 10. Queens Park Rangers. 1. Present. 2. True. 3. False — they won it in 1960-61. 2. False — Eddie Gray. 11. Loftus County are. 3. True. 4. False — they won it in 1960-61. 2. False — Eddie Gray. 12. Culture-A-Team. 3. Ipswich's first team. 4. Ipswich won 4-0. 13. Peter Goodison, Shilton, Anderson, Lloyd, Burns, McGovern, Robertson, Bowyer, O'Neill, Francis, Mills.

Another battle for Bond

KEVIN Bond was not unduly surprised when he was asked to take over as captain of Norwich City this season.

And the prospect of inheriting the job from Martin Peters, now with Sheffield United, does not overawe him, either.

That's a measure of the progress he has made. For only a couple of years ago having a responsibility like that thrust on him would have frightened the life out of 23-year-old Kevin, son of Canaries manager John Bond.

Kevin has had to fight a lot of battles since he came into the Norwich team three years ago.

He had to prove it was ability, and not family favouritism, that earned him his place. And in his own mind he had to be that much better than any candidate for a full-back berth because he was the boss's son.

Life was hard in those early days and he took so much stick he could have been forgiven for chucking it all in.

But Kevin persevered. And if he needed any proof he has won those battles, it came at the end of last season when he won THREE different Player of the Year awards.

He got one chosen by the players and staff, another from a branch of the Supporters' Club and a third from a local garage — which earned him the use of a Renault car for a year.

If anyone was entitled to be more pleased than Kevin about that impressive little haul it must have been dad John. For he kept faith with his son when many so-called good judges in the game were claiming he would never make a player if he lived to be 100.

Kevin proved them wrong with progress that was steady, rather than spectacular, as he developed into a First Division class defender.

John Bond publicly stated last season that he saw Kevin as the

next captain of the club. And that became a reality in August, when Peters moved on to become player-coach at Sheffield United.

"I must be honest and admit that when Martin went I was not surprised to be given the job," Kevin admitted.

"For I skippered the party on the tour to China at the end of last season, when Martin was unable to go.

"I never gave a thought to getting the job permanently. It was unlikely at that stage that Martin would leave the club.

'Good enough'

"But my dad — who is strictly the boss and nothing else when we are at the club — thought I was ready to take over now. So that's good enough for me."

"The rest of the lads have been great about it and are giving me all the help anyone could ask for. And I'm going to need that."

"There's no way I can do the job like Martin did. He had been in the game for years and had already won all the top honours when he came to Norwich."

"I'm a talkative type at the best of times. But since becoming captain I notice a conscious effort on my part to do even more of it. I think that's essential."

"I'm obviously going to work very hard to make a success of things because I'm by no means a

natural leader. Before getting this job I only managed to captain the reserves on the odd occasion."

"I see no reason why I shouldn't make a go of it. I'm convinced in my own mind I've arrived as a First Division player now and feel comfortable in most games."

"The loss of class players like Peters and Welsh international centre-half David Jones — whose career was cut short by a knee injury — leaves us short of quality players, and we face a real battle to make any sort of impression."

"We are all going to have to graft to keep our heads above water and if I can lead Norwich to a respectable League placing I will feel I have done a worthwhile job."

"I couldn't have asked for a better start, beating Stoke 5-1 in our first game."

NEXT WEEK... THE BIG MATCH

Leeds United v. Spurs and the midfield battle between Argentines Sabella and Ardiles. We talk to both players about the game ... and how they rate each other.



Sabella



Ardiles

- Sunderland v. Middlesbrough ... the first North-East clash of the season.
- Rangers team group IN COLOUR. Plus an indepth look at the club + manager John Greig's dream.
- Britain in Europe ... we preview the European Cups First Round ties.
- Why Arsenal and Eire star David O'Leary doesn't like grabbing the headlines.
- The strange story of Gerry Daly's delayed transfer to Coventry.
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ONE thing about football is that no matter how many folk knock it, there's always plenty to talk about.

Go into any pub any day of the week in Britain, it doesn't matter if it's in Derby, Devon or Dorset, and you'll find an argument about soccer.

You might prefer to call it healthy discussion, and there has certainly been plenty of that this summer with the usual goings-on in the transfer market, that other "transfer" between television companies, more arrivals of foreign players, Liam Brady off to Italy, talk of too much football too soon in the year and lots more.

So which way is football heading in Britain — on a collision course to disaster or back to the good old days?

Well, we sounded out that most knowledgeable of men Dave Sexton at Manchester United for

answers to a few of these questions.

TRANSFER FEES

Naturally I would like to see transfer fees pegged around the £500,000 or £600,000 mark, as it is in West Germany and Italy, but it's easier said than done. Clubs appear to have the money to

spend these days, and not just the glamour clubs, so who's going to tell them they can only spend a percentage on players?

It's better to do that and have something to show for your money, rather than pay it all in tax or ground improvements. The fans want to see good players, and to be able to compete at the highest level we simply have to pay the prices being asked or lag

In SHOOT'S 23rd August issue West Ham and England star Trevor Brooking answered some searching questions on the game. Now we put

DAVE SEXTON UNDER



behind the rest, until a limit is imposed, and I'm not sure if and when that can be done.

We tried very hard to sign Liam Brady, and obviously he would have cost us a £1 million, so whether you like it or not, you have to realise you are going to be drawn into an auction. We lost out on Liam, but if any other players of his quality become available we won't be afraid to go out and offer the same sort of money.

It's like buying a house, you always want the best for yourself, and so long as you can afford it, you'll enter the market. It's as simple as that and the clubs with the money will be the ones who'll continue to prosper because they'll always be able to buy the best.

To go back to the ceiling on transfer fees, I have felt strongly for a long time that we should fall in line with U.E.F.A. on this question of a £600,000 limit.

It's ludicrous that if we'd been able to persuade Liam to come to Old Trafford we'd have had to pay twice as much as Juventus got him for in the end. All the EEC countries should have a common agreement, after all we all play under U.E.F.A. rules and transfer fees should be included.

TOO MUCH FOOTBALL

I think towards the end of a season we've all had just about as much as we can take, and we look forward to a summer break.

Then when we've hopefully had a couple of weeks in the sun, and caught up with the gardening we're generally ready for the off again. I know I was this year.

But I do take the point that the more successful clubs are having to play too many matches. Look at Arsenal last season, they played 70

fixtures and were virtually crippled in the end. Certainly they ended up with nothing for their efforts, which must have been heart-breaking after reaching two Cup Finals.

One way to cut down the number of matches, would be to stop this business of two-leg ties in the Football League Cup. They've never resorted to that in the F.A. Cup, and that's always been our most successful and exciting competition, so I don't see why the League Cup should be any different.

I know the arguments are that it gives every club the chance of more money at the gate, and evens up the chances of the teams, but I think luck of the draw is part of any competition, and part of the tradition of the F.A. Cup comes from the big clubs having to fight it out on smaller grounds against the minnows.

CONSULTATION

Too often in the past the opinions of managers, coaches and players, who let's face it, run the game, have never been sought on major matters, with the result that decisions have been taken which have caused a lot of

grumbling inside the game. I like to think that is changing with the stronger voice that the Association of League Secretaries, Managers and Coaches appears to be getting, and it is right they should be able to air their views.

At least with a properly organised Association it should be easier for the authorities to find a sounding board for consultation.

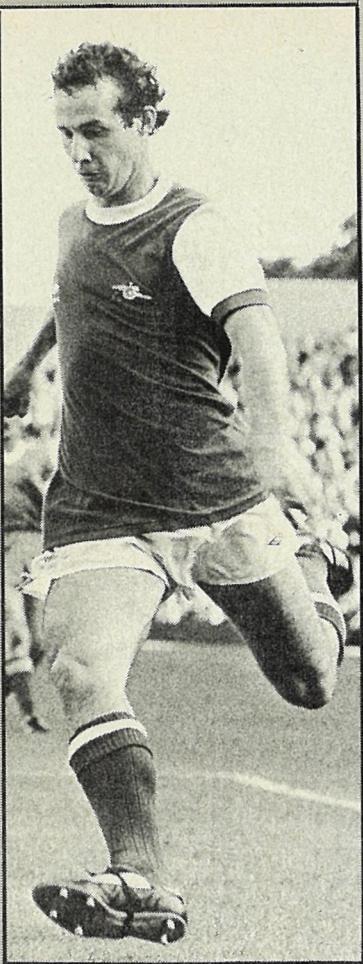
I was pleased to see the findings of the study group published, and it doesn't matter whether or not people argue with some of the proposals, at least it is provoking thought and that has to be good for the game.

THE GAME

It's fashionable for people to say that football is not as good as it used to be, that the individual players don't have as much skill today.

FIRE

Liverpool and Manchester United (left) are likely to challenge for the League Championship again. Liam Brady (right), who left Arsenal for Juventus despite an offer from United.



Well there are always two sides to an argument, and I would say that worldwide the skill and fitness of footballers has continued to increase.

There's tremendous pace in the game now, I think it's played much quicker than it used to be, and I think it has to be realised that the pattern of a game is different.

You don't always see wingers taking a ball up to the full-back as Stanley Matthews used to do, and you don't find many pure stopper centre-halves around, but that is all compensated for by the way others have improved their techniques.

The full-backs today are far more attacking than they were when the brief was simply to take the winger out of the game, and much more emphasis is placed on free-kicks and corners. They didn't used to think things out at set-pieces the same way we all try to do today, and yet for all the extra science, I don't think we've lost a lot in the way of excitement.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP

Last season we were the only ones to keep pace with Liverpool really and you have to say that Bob Paisley's side will be the ones to match yet again.

They'll be trying to emulate Arsenal and Huddersfield in going for a hat-trick of titles on the trot, and I don't suppose they'll be far away, even if they don't achieve it.

I certainly think there'll be half-a-dozen sides giving them a run for their money. I hope we're

one of them, but I would suggest you also keep an eye out for Arsenal, Spurs, Nottingham Forest, Ipswich, West Brom and Southampton.

ENGLAND

Obviously it was very disappointing that we didn't do better in Italy, especially as we flew out with terrific optimism, and seemed to be favourites right across the board of European opinion.

We didn't play well enough to win it, and some of the players didn't perform as well as they can do, but I'm sure the experience, especially for the younger players like Ray Wilkins, Kenny Sansom, Glenn Hoddle and Garry Birtles, must have been invaluable. They'll be all the better for having played in a major tournament like the European Championship Finals.

In common with a lot of other countries, we're looking for a man who can regularly score goals at the very highest level. That sort of a player can make all the difference between a team that wins things and one that doesn't.

Like Ron Greenwood, I'm convinced we're on the right lines. I believe we have the nucleus of a fine side to challenge for the World Cup, and we're all keeping our fingers crossed that some of the youngsters who've shown up well in the "B" and Under-21 sides continue to mature and eventually go on to the full international side.



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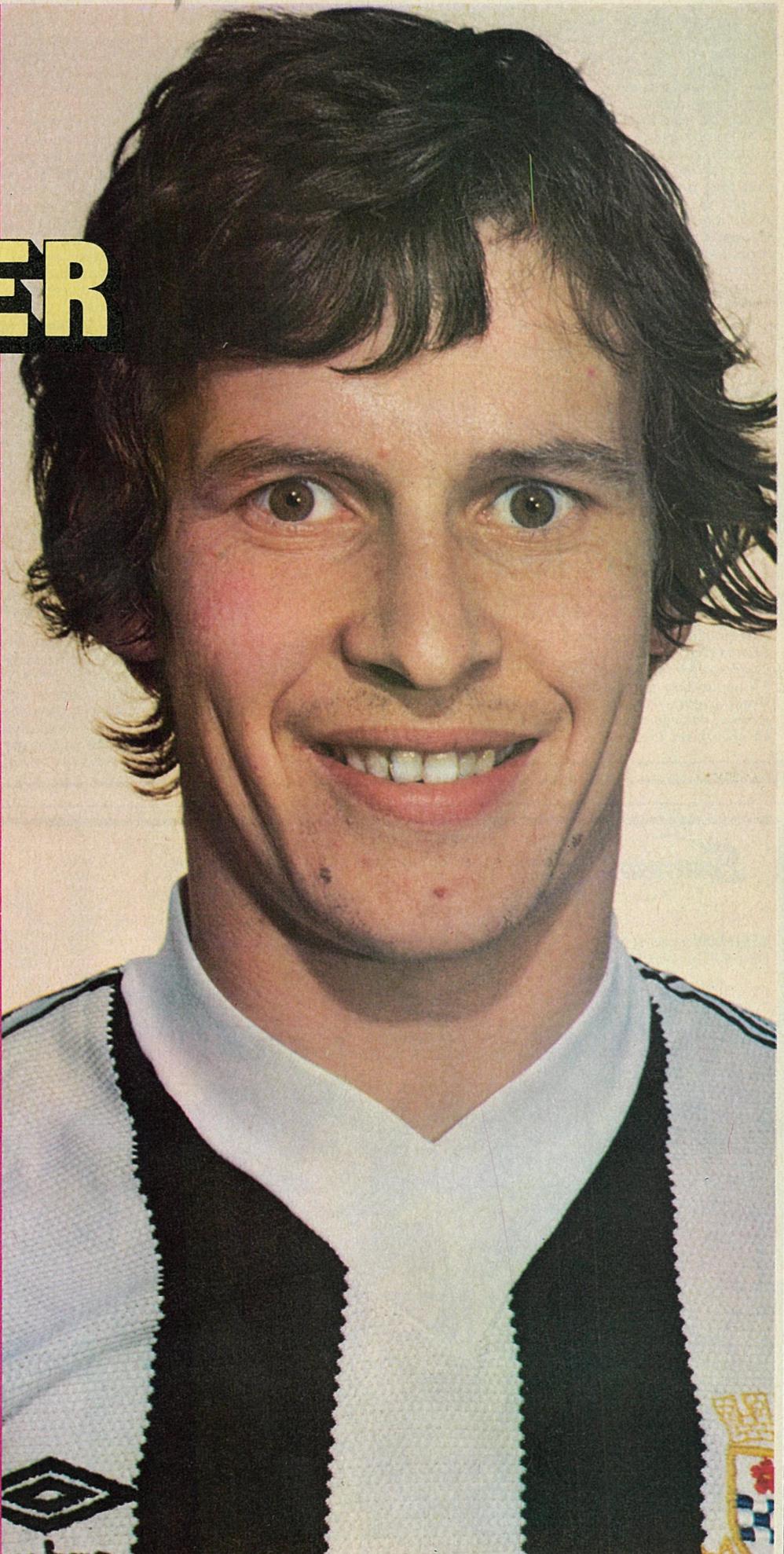
ADDRESS.....



FOCUS ON DOUG SOMNER

St. Mirren

FULL NAME: Douglas MacKenzie Somner
BIRTHPLACE: Edinburgh
BIRTHDATE: July 4, 1951
HEIGHT: 5ft 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins
WEIGHT: 12st 5lbs
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Partick Thistle, Ayr Utd and Falkirk
MARRIED: Yes to Mary
CHILDREN: Alison (4) and Lorna (2)
CAR: Ford Escort GL Estate
FAVOURITE NEWSPAPERS: Glasgow Herald, Paisley Express
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Zico (Brazil)
MOST PROMISING TEAM-MATES: Billy Thomson and Peter Weir
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Liverpool
FOOTBALL HEROES OF CHILDHOOD: Jimmy Bone and Jimmy Greaves
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Golf and tennis
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Paul Hegarty (Dundee Utd)
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Anglo-Scottish Cup Final v Bristol City
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENTS: Losing three Semi-Finals with Partick and not winning the League with Saints last season
FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS: Are you kidding!
FAVOURITE FOOD + DRINK: Scampi, steak, soda water and lime
NICKNAME: Baloo
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES AND DISLIKES: Visiting other countries, winning, eating out/Smoking, driving
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: Rio de Janeiro
FAVOURITE T.V. STAR, MALE AND FEMALE: Benny Hill and Victoria Principle (Dallas)
FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY OFF: Relaxing at home with the family
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Rod Stewart, Roxy Music, Barbra Streisand
AFTER-MATCH ROUTINE: A couple of lagers and then home
BEST FRIEND: My wife Mary
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My late father, Jim Clunie and Bertie Auld
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: Three Scottish League caps
PERSONAL AMBITION: To win a major honour with St. Mirren
IF NOT A PLAYER, WHAT JOB WOULD YOU DO? A manager!
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? The man from Littlewoods!



SHOOT!